



# Nature Notes

Call the Nature Line 314-935-8432 for meeting times & bird sightings [www.wgnss.org](http://www.wgnss.org)

Journal of Webster Groves Nature Study Society

April 2005 Vol. 77, No. 4

## 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Banquet

Margy Terpstra

Join us on Tuesday, May 10, for our Spring Banquet at Eden Seminary Commons, Lockwood and Bompert Ave. in Webster Groves. The social hour will begin at 5:45 pm. Mingle with other members and meet Jim Rathert, our featured speaker and well-known wildlife photographer from the Missouri Department of Conservation. Also during the social hour, Anne McCormack will have Mexican Sage plants for sale. A buffet dinner by Hendri's Catering begins at 6:45. During the dinner program, we'll present a well-deserved Lifetime Achievement Award to a member who has given outstanding service and dedication to nature. The presentation by Jim Rathert will follow. Jim will be showing us a presentation featuring photographs from his recent book, *In Focus*. Since his ongoing passion is birds, Jim will do a very special bird addendum in honor of the peak of spring migration.

This event is guaranteed to be popular with our members, so send in your reservations early! The registration form is found on the last page of this issue.

Parking is available on the Seminary Grounds. Enter the parking lot from Bompert Ave. ♡

## "Ecuador—Above the Clouds" at April 7 meeting

David Mendelson

Come to the next monthly meeting 7:00 PM on Thursday, April 7 at St. Louis County Library Headquarters on Lindbergh Blvd. to hear Dennis Bozzay, well-known naturalist. Dennis will speak of his recent trip to "Ecuador—Above the Clouds." He will show slides of various flora and fauna, especially birds, butterflies, and blooms. This is our joint meeting with the North American Butterfly Society's St. Louis Chapter, NABA. Check their website for events <[www.naba.org/chapters/nabas1/meeting.htm](http://www.naba.org/chapters/nabas1/meeting.htm)>. ♡

## Your Opinions Matter...And We Thank You for Them!

Margy Terpstra, Mike Thelen and David Mendelson—Membership Subcommittee We've had a terrific response to our survey with 147 returned, almost 39%. Results are being tabulated. A synopsis will be reported to the membership in a future issue. Your prompt response is highly valued. Thanks! ♡

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## Dates for '05 Meetings

Inclement weather? For board meeting, usually on first Wed. at University Club Tower, call Yvonne Homeyer, 963-7750. For general meetings, call St. Louis County Library Headquarters 314-994-3300 to ask if the meeting has been cancelled.

Most of these are 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday:

April 7 Dennis Bozzay, "Birds of Ecuador,"  
St. L. Co. Library HQ 7:00 PM

May 10, Tues., Spring Banquet at Eden  
Seminary with MDC photographer Jim  
Rathert

Sept. 1, Oct. 6, & Nov. 3, 2005 ☺

## Holland in the Winter— Waterfowl Watching at its Best!

Mike Flieg

Looking for a short productive winter trip? Consider Holland. There are super airfare bargains to Amsterdam in winter, and it is one of the greatest areas in the world for waterfowl, especially geese. The website <[www.dutchbirding.nl](http://www.dutchbirding.nl)> is current, informative, and a great site guide to the country.

The following species can be observed in December and January:

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Western Bean Goose         | <i>Anser fabalis rossicus</i>  |
| Pink-footed Goose          | <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>  |
| White-fronted Goose        | <i>Anser a. albifrons</i><br><i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> Greenland form  |
| Lesser White-fronted Goose | <i>Anser erythropus</i>  |
| Western Graylag Goose      | <i>Anser a. anser</i>  |
| Barnacle Goose             | <i>Branta leucopsis</i><br>(80% of world population winters here)  |
| Brant Goose                | <i>Branta b. bernicla</i><br>Dark-bellied form<br><i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> Pale-bellied form<br><i>Branta b. nigrican</i> Black form |
| Red-breasted Goose         | <i>Branta ruficollis</i>   |
- Canada Goose, Snow Goose, and Ross's Goose are also encountered as vagrants

Holland is the main staging area for Whooper and Bewick's Swan. Large flocks can be observed in the vegetable fields feeding on unharvested carrots and potatoes.

Large flocks of Smew and Tufted Duck are encountered throughout the area. Other ducks include Eurasian Wigeon, Common Eider, Black Scoter, Greater Scaup, Common Teal, and many other species that are also found in North America.

Holland is also a great area to observe European land birds and alcids. A long weekend can be a real treat especially for birders interested in waterfowl. ☺

## Update on Annual June Bird Count at Busch Wildlife

Jim Ziebol

Randy Korotev's discovery of a Great Blue Heron rookery near Lake 33, which contains as many as 65 individuals, was the highlight of the 2004 June Bird Survey at Busch Wildlife, which has been conducted by WGNSS members since 1999. New species for 2004 were Snowy Egret, Black-crowned Night Heron, Blue-winged Teal and Prothonotary Warbler. The data is consistent over the years, except for a few spikes.

In 2004, populations of Acadian Flycatcher and Eastern Wood Pewee were definitely on the rise, while E. Kingbird and E. Phoebe were down somewhat. Bell's Vireo and Yellow-throated Vireo increased somewhat in number, but the other vireos—Warbling, Red-eyed and White-eyed—showed declines. Species not seen that were expected included Purple Martin, Bank Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Pine Warbler, Hooded Warbler and Lark Sparrow. Once again, Cerulean Warbler was found only at Lost Valley Trail.

Prior to the timber cutting done at Lost Valley Trail in 2001, 10 singing males had been reported, but since then only 2 to 4 have been reported. Field and edge species are doing fairly well across the survey area, whereas riparian species are barely holding their own. We will track the 10

most common species and the 10 least common species.

*For 2004, the 10 most common species were:*

Indigo Bunting.....	272
Common Yellowthroat.....	187
N. Cardinal.....	180
Field Sparrow.....	125
Am. Goldfinch.....	125
Yellow-breasted Chat.....	121
E. Towhee.....	103
Red-winged Blackbird.....	103
Brown-headed Cowbird.....	179
Common Grackle.....	76

*For 2004, the 10 least common species were:*

Cooper's Hawk.....	1
Prairie Warbler.....	1
Redstart.....	1
Wood Duck.....	2
Red-shouldered Hawk.....	3
Red-headed Woodpecker.....	3
N. Mockingbird.....	3
Black-and-white Warbler.....	4
Cerulean Warbler.....	4
Willow Flycatcher.....	10

I'd like to thank the following WGNSS members who participated in the '04 survey: Mary Anne Auer, Connie Alwood, Loy Barber, Torrey Berger, Tom Bormann, Dennis Bozzay, Mike Grant, Sue Gustafson, Yvonne Homeyer, Paul & Barbara Johnson, Randy Korotev, Scott Marshall, Anne McCormack, Sherry McCowan, Jeannie Moe, Kraig Paradise, Tom Parmeter, Kevin Renick, Mike Thelen, Bruce Wetteroth, and Jim Ziebol. 🐦

## Bird Art Exhibit at Missouri Botanical Garden

Yvonne Homeyer

The Missouri Botanical Garden is sponsoring an exhibit of more than 40 oil paintings by Nigel Hugues of the rarest bird family in the Americas, the *Cracidae*, which includes Chachalacas, Guans, and Curassows. Because of hunting and habitat loss, nearly one-third of these beautifully plumed bird species are endangered, and certain species are on the very edge of extinction. The exhibit, at the Ridgeway

Center, runs through Friday, April 8, and will conclude with a talk on April 8 at 5:30 p.m. about the *Cracidae* birds and their environment. Dr. Ivan Jimenez Marcos will speak on ecology of Curassows in the Amazonian rain forest and Dr. Peter Jorgensen will speak on the effects of habitat destruction and the loss of plant species that are contributing to this bird family's sad demise. 🐦

## February 2005 Bird Report

Jim Ziebol & Yvonne Homeyer

BCA = Busch Wildlife Area

CL = Carlyle Lake

CSP = Castlewood State Park

CC= Clarence Cannon National Wildlife Ref, An-nada

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:* Dr. John Fitzpatrick the director of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, spoke in St. Louis on March 2 at John Burroughs School. He mentioned the serious decline of Cerulean Warbler and Red-headed Woodpecker, birds that these editors have previously noted to be in trouble, but we had not realized that Yellow-shafted Flicker was experiencing similar declines of 3% to 7% a year. The Laboratory's Backyard Feeder Project is designed to "keep common birds common" by raising awareness of our everyday birds and the causes of their decline (habitat loss, pesticides, tower kills, building strikes, and outdoor cats).

In last month's bird report we referred to the National Geographic article about global warming and how natural cycles of interdependent species are pulling apart. Several examples of disturbance in the natural cycles can be found in this year's Christmas Counts. On 12/28/04, on the Horseshoe Lake Count, Frank Holmes found a snake that had been freshly run over by a car and another count participant observed a hawk carrying a snake—these snakes should have been deep in hibernation. On 1/2/05 on the

Busch Christmas Count, up to 20 turtles were outside sunning themselves at Hampton Lake and a tick attached itself to one of the editors. Ten years ago, none of this would have ever happened.

**Sightings:** A late report from January: 1 Spotted Towhee found on Howell Island on 1/30 (MAA).

Throughout February, 6 to 8 Mute Swans were present at HL (FH, CA, P&BJ). On 2/2, Jeannie Moe found 60 Trumpeter Swans, 100 Goldeneye, 50 Common Mergansers, 12 Ruddy Ducks and 2 Herring Gulls at REDA. A visit to Baldwin Lake on 2/12 produced 5,000 Snow Geese, 2 Ross's Geese, and 2 Cackling Geese (CA, T Bo). On 2/13, a huge mixed flock of geese in a field along Bruns Road included 750 Canada, 400+ Greater White-fronted, and 45 Snow Geese (JZ, FH). Other high counts of White-fronted Geese included 45 at REDA on 2/5, plus a Tundra Swan and 2 Oldsquaws (DR), and 65 seen flying over HL on 2/27 (FH, JZ). Snow Geese were reported from TGP (flyover) on 2/6 (SM), several hundred over Manchester Road on 2/14 (Joe Smentowski) and 2,500 at HL on 2/20 (JZ, FH). On 2/21, 2 male Blue-winged Teal were seen at HL (CA, T Bo). On 2/4, 25 Wigeons and several Pintails were found at REDA (DR, CA). By 2/5, both Wigeons and Pintails had arrived at HL (FH). Wood Ducks are a winter resident species in FP, and they were seen there all month (JC, SM). An Oldsquaw was present at the end of the month at REDA (CM, CA). By 2/26, Connie Alwood had found all of the regularly occurring duck species, excluding the Scoters. The earliest report of a Woodcock was at Mark Peter's prairie on 2/7. By 2/13, several Woodcocks were seen displaying in their usual field at the 45-degree turn on Road C in Busch Wildlife (JC, JU). [Note: As of 3/6, this field had been completely burned.] The first Killdeer was observed on Sand Prairie Lane on 2/5 (FH). A second-winter Laughing Gull was seen at REDA on the IL side on 2/8 (G&TB).

The Harlan's Hawk wintering at HL was seen flying over Bischoff Road on 2/13 (JZ, FH). Another Harlan's Hawk was observed at Katy Trail SP/Weldon

Spring Access, on 2/20 (MT). On 2/3, the Thursday Group found 14 Red-tailed Hawks, 3 Red-shouldered Hawks, and an E. Towhee at BCA and Howell Island (JC). Connie Alwood and Tom Bormann saw several raptors on 2/12, including 2 Black Vultures north of Ste. Genevieve, a dark-phase Rough-legged Hawk at Kaskaskia Island, several male N. Harriers, and 60 Kestrels for the day. Merlin sightings included 1 at REDA on 2/5 (JU and SLAS), 1 on 2/15 at Hwy. 203/HL (JZ) and 1 at Hwy. 13 near Freeburg, IL on 2/17 (JC, Thursday Group). Up to 8 Short-eared Owls were seen throughout the month at Peabody Coal (CA, JC, Th. Group). February 18 is one of the earliest dates ever for Tree Swallows; 3 were seen at HL on that date, and 25+ were present on 2/27 (FH). Paul & Barbara Johnson located a Fish Crow at the Borrow Pit at HL on 2/20. On 2/4, a Ruby-crowned Kinglet and singing Song Sparrows were found in FP (SM). On 2/24 at SNR, the Johnsons found Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Brown Thrasher, E. Towhee and Pine Siskins. Joe Smentowski saw several Bluebirds courting near House Spring on 2/14. On 2/12, a Loggerhead Shrike was seen at Peabody Coal (CA, T Bo). An apparent Lincoln's Sparrow was seen in FP on 2/14 (CZ). Larry Wells reported Harris's Sparrow and Turkey Vultures at White Memorial CA in Lincoln Co. on 2/7. On 2/5, the Saturday Group found Harris's Sparrow at the Blue Grosbeak Trail and Purple Finch, Brown Creeper and Red-breasted Nuthatch in BCA (DB). On 2/13, 40 White-crowned, 50 American Tree and 2 Song Sparrows were found at the end of Bend Road, HL (FH, JZ). On 2/12, 30 Western Meadowlarks were reported at the Katy Trail Access (JU) and they were still seen there at the end of the month (JC, MT, G&TB). On 2/26, Bob Kleiger and Kent Lannert found 4 Pine Siskins at Fallen Oak Trail in BCA.

A typical day for the Thursday Group on 2/17 included 8 Short-eared Owls, several Kestrels and Harriers at Peabody Coal; Snow and Cackling Geese, Greater Scaup, Shovelers and Redheads at Baldwin Lake; a Merlin on Hwy. 13 near Freeburg,

IL, and Ruddy Ducks, Kingfishers, and Horned Larks in the HL area (JC).

A typical day at Forest Park on 2/19 included 2 Sapsuckers, 2 Kingfishers, Swamp Sparrow, Kestrel, 25 Wood Ducks, 1 Killdeer and 1 Herring Gull (MT).

**Back-yard Sightings:** Dennis Bozzay had a Pine Siskin visiting his feeder all month. A Eurasian Collared Dove was seen on 2/6 by Bob Lamberton. On 2/19, a Red-bellied Woodpecker and 3 Juncos were found in Jeannie Moe's yard.

**Contributors:** Connie Alwood, Mary Anne Auer, George & Terry Barker, David Becher, Torrey Berger, Tom Bormann, Jackie Chain, Frank Holmes, Paul & Barbara Johnson, Sherry McCowan, Jim & Charlene Malone, Jeannie Moe, Mark Peters, Dave Rogles, Mike Thelen, Josh Uffman, Clarence Zacher, and 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>. ♡

## Historian's Corner: The Pacific Railroad Survey and its Naturalists

Jim Adams

An article by George Yatskievych appeared in the April 2004 issue of *Nature Notes* under the title "Another Take on the Botany of Leis and Clark." Yatskievych is Co-chair of the WGNSS Botany Group. In his article, George noted that the Corps of Discovery observed and collected a large number of plant and animal specimens, over half of which were new to science. This collecting was done at the request of President Thomas Jefferson who wanted information about the flora and fauna of the new land that the US had acquired by the Louisiana Purchase.

Many years passed before other government explorers visited larger areas of the still mostly unexplored West. This happened in the 1850s because of the interest of national leaders in the construction of a railroad extending westward from the Mississippi to provide rapid ac-

cess to the new western territories annexed after Mexican War. In 1853, Congress approved an amendment to the Army's annual appropriation bill, calling for surveys of possible routes for a trans-continental railroad, and later in 1853, the Secretary of War, Jefferson Davis, outlined plans for four possible routes for such a railroad and appointed leaders for these surveys. Secretary Davis's "marching orders" to the survey parties included in a directive, like that given to the Corps of Discovery by President Jefferson, to carry out a comprehensive natural history survey of each territory surveyed. Davis requested information about types of soil, climate, and the geology, botany and zoology of each of the four regions to be surveyed. He further directed that the natural history information obtained be sent to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, to the attention of Joseph Henry, Secretary and Spencer Fullerton Baird, Assistant Secretary for evaluation and analysis by Smithsonian specialists.

The first party, assigned to explore a possible northern route, was to be led by Governor Isaac Stevens of Washington Territory, assisted by Capt. George B. McClellan. A second possible route between the thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth parallels was to be surveyed by a party led by Capt. Gunnison of the Army topographical engineers. Lt. Whipple was to survey the third alternative route, near the thirty-fifth parallel. The southern route was visualized as passing through Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona en route to California. Several men were designated to serve as leaders of this survey, presumably because of its greater length. These were Lt. Col. Emory, Capt. J. G. Pope, Lt. J. G. Parkes, and Lt. Williamson. Young medical officers attached to each of the four groups were to serve as scientific advisors for natural history activities.

The survey parties were organized, set out as directed by Secretary Davis, and performed the assigned surveys. Outstanding contributors to the natural history surveys were Dr. James Graham Cooper, John Xanthus de Vesey, Lt. W. P. Trowbridge, Dr. George A. Suckley, and

Dr. J. S. Newberry. The collections of Lt. Trowbridge added some fifty new species of fish to North American fauna. The following birds were attributed to Xanthus: Varied Thrush, Mountain Titmouse, Pine Finch (*Peucaea cassinii*, now Cassin's Sparrow), Brown Towhee (*Pipilo fuscus*—now called Canyon Towhee after being split from California Towhee), California Quail, and Red-breasted Teal (now Cinnamon Teal). Dr. Suckley contributed a large collection of mammals, birds, reptiles, fishes, and invertebrates from the Pacific Northwest. Dr. Newberry, a geologist and naturalist, collected many larger animals, such as bear, deer, etc., which had not been obtained previously by any expeditions.

Botanical reports about the plant specimens collected by survey personnel were issued by Dr. Newberry, Asa Gray, John Torrey, and George Engelmann. More than 60 new species of plants were reported, along with many new genera. T. Antisell and Louis Agassiz wrote about geology and fossil fishes, respectively. Asst. Secretary Spencer F. Baird authored a consolidated bird report that listed some 350 species.

A number of naturalists participating in the Pacific Railroad survey named new species or had birds and animals named after them.

Adolphus Lewis Heerman: Heerman's Song Sparrow and Heerman's Gull. He also described the California Grebe.

Dr. James Cooper: Cooper's Hen Hawk (Cooper's Hawk), Cooper's Song Sparrow, Cooper's Tanager, Cooper's Grebe (now Red-necked Grebe), and Cooper's Shearwater. Cooper described and named Baird's Cormorant, Whitney's Elf Owl, Lucy's Warbler (named for Spencer Baird's daughter), and a Tree Swallow.

John Xanthus: Xanthus Murrelet, California Spotted Owl, San Lucas Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Hammond's Flycatcher, San Lucas Cactus Wren, San Lucas Thrasher, and Cassin's Vireo.

George Suckley: Black Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius suckleyi*, now Pacific Merlin), a short-billed gull (*Larus suckleyi*—Mew Gull?), Rhinoceros Auklet (*Cerohina suckleyi*), a dogfish (*Spinay acan-*

*thias sucklii*), and a sucker (*Castomus sucklii*).

Dr. Elliot Coues: Coues, an army surgeon, named a shrew (*Notiosorex crawfordi*) in honor of Samuel Wylie Crawford (1827–1892), a member of the survey party. The Coues Flycatcher (now Greater Pewee) is named after Dr. Coues.

Spencer F. Baird: Two birds are named after Baird, the Baird's Sparrow and the Baird's Sandpiper.

Lt. Robert Stockton Williamson: Williamson's Sapsucker was named for the Lt. who was in charge of the survey in northern California.

John Cassin: The Cassin's Finch and Cassin's Auklet are named for Cassin, curator of Ornithology at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia. Cassin assisted Baird in the preparation of Vol. 9 of the reports of the survey.

George N. Lawrence: His name was given to Lawrence's Goldfinch and Lawrence's Warbler, a hybrid. Lawrence worked with Cassin and Baird in describing the bird collection on the survey—principally the water birds.

Dr. John L. LeConte: LeConte's Sparrow is named for this entomologist who was also interested in birds. LeConte authored the second on insects, Part One of the seven-part Zoological Report on survey collections.

WGNSS member, Clarence Zacher, suggested this historian's corner item to the writer. The lengthy source document provided by Zacher was a copy of a speech delivered by Milton C Moore, Librarian at SIU-Edwardsville, now deceased. It is entitled *The Pacific Railroad Survey and Its Naturalists* and was presented at a meeting of the St. Louis Westerners, an organization of exploration and western lore buffs, on November 18, 1977.

The paper was later published in *Westward*, Vol. VII, No. 2, p. 31–48, May, 1978. *Westward*—no longer published—was the journal of the St. Louis Westerners.

Clarence is also a long-time member of this organization, which still meets regularly. Mr. Moore performed a valuable service in assembling his information from many sources, many now probably hard to locate. Mr. Moore's paper also had

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a very limited distribution, and we are fortunate that Clarence kept a copy.

The writer wants to acknowledge Clarence's considerable hope with the list of men associated with the survey in the field. He also obtained additional information about the men from independent sources. Without his help, this "Historian's Corner" article could not have been written. ♡

## Earth Day in Forest Park

Since 1989, the St. Louis Earth Day Festival has celebrated the magnificence of our planet and demonstrated ways to protect our natural resources. This year's festival at a variety of venues in Forest Park on May 1 will feature multi-cultural music & art, environmental performances, parades and poetry, opportunities to create earth-friendly crafts, green exhibitors, a peace garden and much more. Get fit and join in the Earth Day 5K Run/Walk for the Rivers, volunteer for one of 3 exciting stewardship projects, visit the park's cultural institutions and/or attend the festival on the Muny grounds. For more information on Earth Day activities, locations and times of Forest Park events, go to [www.stlouisearthday.org/01FrstPark/EDinForestPk.htm](http://www.stlouisearthday.org/01FrstPark/EDinForestPk.htm). ♡

## 2005 Earth Day Symposia

More than 35 partnering groups are proud to present the 2005 Earth Day Symposia, "A Confluence of Interests" on Thursday & Friday, April 21 & 22. Forums on both sides of the Mississippi River combine presentations by national and regional experts with participant discussion and field experiences. Programs emphasize cooperative strategies for the protection, use, and promotion of our region's abundant water resources, and examine how these strategies contribute to the economic vitality of the Greater St. Louis Region. The symposia are designed

for government officials, staff, and consultants, as well as civic and community leaders. For complete program information and online registration go to <http://www.stlouisearthday.org/05Symposium/SympMain.htm>.

## 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. ♡

## Next deadline: April 8!

*Nature Notes* publishes 10 issues a year, each mailed on the third Mon. of the month—unless the library is closed. To allow time for layout, printing, etc., the deadline is always 10 days prior to that date.

Submissions—handwritten or typed, email, IBM or Mac to: Anne McCormack, 587 Andrews, St. Louis MO 63122-5722 [amccormack@stjosephacad.org](mailto:amccormack@stjosephacad.org). ♡

## Nature Notes Deadlines & Mailings

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

<i>mailing party</i>	<i>NN deadline</i>
Mon. 4/18, 10-1 Oak Bend	Fri. 4/8
Tues. 5/17, 10-1 Oak Bend	Fri. 5/6
Mon. 8/15, 10-1 Oak Bend	Fri. 8/5
Mon. 9/19, 10-1 Oak Bend	Fri. 9/9
Mon. 10/17, 10-1 Oak Bend	Fri. 10/7
Mon. 11/21, 10-1 Oak Bend	Fri. 11/11
Mon. 12/19/05, 10-1 Oak Bend	Fri. 12/9

 ♡

# Odonates of the St. Louis Area

Yvonne Homeyer

From 2001—2004, several members of WGNSS and NABA (North American Butterfly Association) have been gathering data on the dragonfly and damselfly species in the St. Louis area. Below is a composite list of all the species found during that time period, noting abundance, flight time, and the early and late dates each species was observed.

Identification was based upon field marks, using photographic guides such as *Dragonflies through Binoculars*, by Sidney Dunkle. Yvonne Homeyer and Jim Ziebol have filmed most of these species with their digital camcorders. Torrey Berger, Dennis Bozzay, Ron Goetz, Yvonne Homeyer, Scott Marshall, Jeannie Moe, Mark Peters and Jim Ziebol contributed their field sightings to this compilation effort. Special thanks to Jim Ziebol for collecting and organizing the data.

species name	abundance	flight time	early/late dates
<b>Dragonflies</b>			
Gray Petaltail	rare	spring	5/31 - 6/6
Common Green Darner	abundant	spring/summer/fall	3/24 - 10/22
Comet Darner	rare	summer	7/4 - 7/20
Swamp Darner	rare to uncommon	spring/summer	4/18 - 6/2
Cyrano Darner	rare	summer	6/17
Fawn Darner	rare	summer	9/8 - 9/12
Springtime Darner	uncommon	spring	4/8 - 4/22
Dragonhunter	uncommon	summer	6/7 - 9/3
Pronghorn Clubtail	uncommon	spring/summer	5/20 - 6/12
Ashy Clubtail	rare	summer	5/22
Lancet Clubtail	rare	summer	5/21 - 6/5
Cobra Clubtail	uncommon	summer	6/27 - 7/26
Splendid Clubtail	uncommon	summer	5/22 - 6/5
Ozark Clubtail	rare	summer	5/23 - 6/7
Russet-tipped Clubtail	rare	summer/fall	8/12 - 10/4
Black-shouldered Spinylegs	uncommon	summer/fall	5/27 - 8/23
Flag-tailed Spinylegs	uncommon	summer/fall	6/11 - 9/26
Unicorn Clubtail	rare	summer	6/20-7/15
Jade Clubtail	uncommon	summer	5/29 - 8/26
Least Clubtail	rare	summer	7/30 - 8/19
Common Sanddragon	uncommon	summer	6/7 - 8/14
E. Ringtail	rare	summer	7/1 - 8/23
Arrowhead Spiketail	rare	summer	5/26 - 6/3
Stream Cruiser	uncommon	spring/summer	4/18 - 7/13
Illinois River Cruiser	rare	summer	8/21
Prince Baskettail	common	summer	7/13 - 8/31
Common Baskettail	uncommon	spring	4/8 - 5/4
Mocha Emerald	rare	summer	8/23
Clamp-tipped Emerald	rare	summer	6/5 - 7/30
Widow Skimmer	common/abundant	spring/summer/fall	5/27 - 10/2



Common Whitetail	abundant	spring/summer/fall	4/21 – 10/28
Twelve-spotted Skimmer	uncommon to common	spring/summer/fall	5/17 – 9/24
Blue Corporal	common	spring	4/14 – 5/20
Spangled Skimmer	uncommon	spring/summer	5/9 – 7/10
Great Blue Skimmer	rare	summer/fall	8/1 – 9/7
Slaty Skimmer	uncommon to common	summer/fall	6/11 – 9/12
Blue-faced Meadowhawk	uncommon to common	summer/fall	6/19 – 10/28
Variegated Meadowhawk	uncommon	summer/fall	6/18 – 10/16
Autumn Meadowhawk (Yellow-legged)	common	summer/fall	7/18 – 11/22
Ruby Meadowhawk	uncommon	fall	10/5 – 10/31
White-faced Meadowhawk	uncommon	summer/fall	8/18 – 10/24
E. Amberwing	common	spring/summer/fall	5/20 – 9/25
Blue Dasher	common	spring/summer	5/20 – 8/30
E. Pondhawk	common	spring/summer/fall	4/28 – 10/20
Wandering Glider	uncommon	summer/fall	4/23 – 10/24
Spot-winged Glider	rare	summer	5/29 - 7/10
Black Saddlebags	uncommon to c	spring/summer/fall	4/18 – 10/18
Carolina Saddlebags	uncommon	spring/summer	5/6 – 6/17
Red Saddlebags	uncommon	summer/fall	7/8 – 9/3
Halloween Pennant	common	summer/fall	6/11 – 9/25
Banded Pennant	common	summer/fall	6/12 – 10/25
Calico Pennant	uncommon	summer/fall	5/20 – 9/20
<b>Out of Area</b>			
Hine's Emerald	rare	summer	6/5
Yellow-sided Skimmer	rare	summer	6/5
Checkered Setwing	rare	summer	6/19
<b>Damselflies</b>			
Ebony Jewelwing	common	spring/summer/fall	5/18 – 9/13
American Rubyspot	common	summer/fall	7/30 – 10/12
Smoky Rubyspot	rare	fall	9/25 – 10/4
Great Spreadwing	rare	fall	10/22
Swamp Spreadwing	rare	summer/fall	6/17 – 9/30
Spotted Spreadwing	rare	fall	10/28
Slender Spreadwing	rare	summer	6/5 – 8/23
Southern Spreadwing	hypothetical	spring	4/19
Aurora Damsel	rare	spring	5/21 – 6/5
Springwater Dancer	common to abundant	spring	5/21 – 7/30
Variable Dancer	common	spring/summer/fall	5/20 – 10/3

Blue-fronted Dancer	uncommon to c	summer/fall	7/1 – 10/9
Powdered Dancer	abundant	spring/summer/fall	6/10 – 10/30
Dusky Dancer	rare to uncommon	summer/fall	7/26 – 10/9
Blue-tipped Dancer	rare	summer	6/5 – 7/30
Blue-ringed Dancer	rare	summer	7/30 – 8/19
Orange Bluet	common	summer/fall	6/11 – 10/8
Vesper Bluet	rare	summer/fall	8/31 – 9/19
Azure Bluet	rare	summer	6/4
Skimming Bluet	uncommon	summer/fall	6/20 to 9/19
Slender Bluet	uncommon	summer	6/4 to 8/????
Stream Bluet	common	summer	7/3 – 8/31
Double-striped Bluet	common	summer/fall	6/11 – 10/23
Familiar Bluet	common to abundant	summer/fall	6/16 – 11/6
Fragile Forktail	common to abundant	spring/summer/fall	4/3 – 11/7
Eastern Forktail	common	spring/summer/fall	4/28 – 11/10
Citrine Forktail	uncommon	spring/summer/fall	5/4 – 11/10

## Saint Louis Area Composite Sighting List of Birds for 2004

Connie Alwood

This is a list of known bird sightings within the "St Louis Area" as defined in the book, "Birds of the St Louis Area." The list was compiled primarily from sightings reported in Jim Ziebol and Yvonne Homeyer's monthly bird report column in *Nature Notes* and from messages posted on MOBIRDS.

Only birds seen in the year **2004** are listed. Uncommon or rare birds seen by a single observer are marked with an asterisk. This practice is in keeping with the above mentioned book, where such sightings are listed as hypothetical.

Birds, without the observer and place listed, are regarded as common. Most are seen throughout the year.

Trumpeter Swans and Monk Parakeets are not yet countable birds. Mute Swans may only be counted in Illinois. The Mis-

souri Records Committee has not accepted them as established in Missouri.

### Abbreviations Used:

BCA—August A. Busch Conservation Area, St. Charles County

CSP—Castlewood State Park

CCNWR—Clarence Cannon National Wildlife Refuge, Pike County

CL—Carlyle Lake Clinton County, IL

HL—Horseshoe Lake Madison County, IL

LCCL—Little Creve Coeur Lake, St. Louis County

Two River National Wildlife Refuge—Calhoun County, IL

PRKSFWA—Peabody-River King State Fish and Wildlife Area St. Clair County, IL

REDA—Riverlands Environmental Demonstration Area (both MO & IL)

SNR—Shaw Nature Reserve

TGP—Tower Grove Park

WSCA—Weldon Springs Conservation Area

Species	Comments		
<b>Loons</b>			
Red-throated Loon	10/2	Connie Alwood and Tom Bormann	REDA
Pacific Loon	11/26	Dave Becher	CL
Common Loon	1/1	m.ob	REDA
<b>Grebes</b>			
Pied-billed Grebe	2/24	Dennis Bozzay	HL
Horned Grebe	2/11	Dave Becher	HL
Eared Grebe	9/7	Dan Kassebaum	CL
Western Grebe	4/30	Joe Eades & Jim Malone	Creve Coeur Lake

<b>Species</b>	<b>Comments</b>		
<b>Pelicans</b>			
American White Pelican	1/10	Dave Becher	REDA
<b>Cormorants</b>			
Great Cormorant*	9/26	Carl Baggott	Forest Park
Double-crested Cormorant	1/10	Dave Becher	REDA
<b>Hérons, Egrets and Bitterns</b>			
Great Blue Heron	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Great Egret	3/14	Frank Holmes	HL
Little Blue Heron	3/27	Mark Mittleman	Cahokia
		Mounds, IL	
Snowy Egret	3/30	Frank Holmes	HL
Cattle Egret	3/30	Frank Holmes	HL
Green Heron	4/22	John & Nancy Solodar	REDA
Black-crowned Night-Heron	4/4	Frank Holmes & Jim Zeibol	HL
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	3/24	Frank Holmes	Granite City, IL
Least Bittern	4/19	Mark Paradise	Creve Coeur Lake
American Bittern	4/4	Paul & Barbara Johnson	LCCL
<b>Ibis and Spoonbills</b>			
White Ibis*	4/8	Torrey Berger	TRNWR
White-faced Ibis	4/20	Kent Lannert	TRNWR
<b>Ducks, Geese and Swans</b>			
Mute Swan	1/24	Tom Bormann & Connie Alwood	PRKSWA
Trumpeter Swan			
Tundra Swan	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Greater White-fronted Goose	1/6	Jackie Chain	REDA
Snow Goose	1/1	m.ob	TRNWR
Ross's Goose	1/17	Jackie Chain	Baldwin Lake, IL
Canada Goose			
Cackling Goose	10/14	Joe Eades	HL
Wood Duck	1/25	Frank Holmes	REDA
American Wigeon	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Gadwall	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Green-winged Teal	1/15	Jackie Chain	REDA
Mallard			
American Black Duck	1/29	Scott Schuette	Winfield Dam
Northern Pintail	1/1	m.ob	Creve Coeur Lake
Blue-winged Teal	3/1	Jim Zeibol	Indian Lake, IL
Cinnamon Teal	7/5	Jim Malone	REDA
Northern Shoveler	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Canvasback	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Redhead	2/12	Dick Coles	BCA
Ring-necked Duck	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Greater Scaup	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Lesser Scaup	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Long-tailed Duck	1/6	Dan Kassebaum	Carlyle Lake Sewage Lagoon
Black Scoter	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Surf Scoter	11/2	Charlene Malone	Winfield Dam
White-winged Scoter	1/26	Charlene Malone	REDA
Common Goldeneye	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Bufflehead	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Hooded Merganser	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Red-breasted Merganser	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Common Merganser	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Ruddy Duck	1/1	m.ob	REDA
<b>New World Vultures</b>			

Species	Comments		
Black Vulture	2/22	Mike Brady	Hawn St. Park
Turkey Vulture	2/2	Frank Holmes	East Alton, IL
<b>Osprey</b>			
Osprey	3/26	Jackie Chain	St. Charles Co
<b>Hawks, Eagles and Kites</b>			
Mississippi Kite	5/6	Mary Ann Aeur	Kirkwood, MO
Swallow-tailed Kite*	6/12	Tom May	New Athens, IL
Bald Eagle	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Northern Harrier	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1/27	Dennis Bozzay	Crestwood, MO
Cooper's Hawk	1/3	m.ob	BCA
Northern Goshawk	3/6	Dave Becher	WSCA
Red-shouldered Hawk	2/2	Dick Coles	Eureka, MO
Broad-winged Hawk	4/6	Mike Brady	CSP
Red-tailed Hawk			
Rough-legged Hawk	1/8	George & Terry Barker	St. Charles Co
Golden Eagle	2/29	Rad Widmer	TRNWR
<b>Falcons and Caracaras</b>			
American Kestrel			
Merlin	2/2	Jim Zeibol	Lakewood Cemetery, St. Louis Co
Prairie Falcon	2/8	Joe Eades	Seeburger Rd. St. Charles Co
Peregrine Falcon	2/17	Jim Zeibol	HL
<b>Turkeys</b>			
Wild Turkey	1/15	Jackie Chain	REDA
<b>New World Quail</b>			
Northern Bobwhite	1/1	Tom Bormann & Connie Alwood	LCCL
<b>Pheasants and Partridges</b>			
Ring-necked Pheasant			
<b>Cranes</b>			
Sandhill Crane	2/22	Charlene Malone & Keith McMullen	CL
<b>Rails, Gallinules and Coots</b>			
Yellow Rail*	4/24	David Rogles	CCNWR
King Rail	4/30	Charlene Malone	CCNWR
Virginia Rail	5/8	Joe Eades & Jim Malone	Lincoln Co
Sora	4/15	Paul & Barbara Johnson	LCCL
Common Moorhen	4/26	Nick Barber	LCCL
American Coot	1/1	m.ob	REDA
<b>Avocets and Stilts</b>			
Black-necked Stilt	4/29	Donald Hayes & Jim Jackson	Prairie Slough Foley, MO
American Avocet	6/22	Torrey Berger	REDA
<b>Plovers and Lapwings</b>			
American Golden-Plover	3/20	Wilma Kennell	REDA
Black-bellied Plover	5/10	Alec Meillur	REDA
Semipalmated Plover	4/20	Kent Lannert	TRNWR
Killdeer	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Piping Plover	7/24	Tom Bormann & Connie Alwood	Chain of Rocks, Madison Co, IL
Wilson's Plover*	6/13	Kevin Richmond	REDA
<b>Sandpipers</b>			
American Woodcock	2/22	Kraig Paradise	Spanish Lake St. Louis Co
Wilson's Snipe	2/8	David Garcia & Bob Bailey	Winfield Dam
Short-billed Dowitcher	5/3	Jeannie Moe	Point du Sable St. Charles Co
Long-billed Dowitcher	4/20	Kent Lannert	TRNWR
Hudsonian Godwit	4/22	Joe Eades	TRNWR

<b>Species</b>	<b>Comments</b>		
Marbled Godwit	4/10	Charlene Malone	REDA
Whimbrel	5/23	Josh Uffman	REDA
Upland Sandpiper	9/5	Joe Eades	CCNWR
Greater Yellowlegs	3/26	Dave Rogles	St. Charles Co
Lesser Yellowlegs	3/26	Dave Rogles	St. Charles Co
Solitary Sandpiper	4/17	Frank Holmes	HL
Spotted Sandpiper	4/18	Josh Uffman	REDA
Willet	4/19	Charlene Malone	LCCL
Ruddy Turnstone	5/22	Charlene Malone	REDA
Red Knot	5/25	Charlene Malone	REDA
Sanderling	5/23	Dave Rogles	REDA
Semipalmated Sandpiper	4/21	Josh Uffman	REDA
Western Sandpiper	2/29	Donald Hayes & Jim Jackson	CCNWR
Least Sandpiper	1/24	Charlene Malone	Winfield Dam
White-rumped Sandpiper	5/3	Josh Uffman	REDA
Baird's Sandpiper	4/16	Josh Uffman	REDA
Pectoral Sandpiper	3/19	Josh Uffman	REDA
Dunlin	4/11	John Solodar	REDA
Stilt Sandpiper	4/11	John Solodar	REDA
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	8/4	Charlene Malone	Hwy s 94 & B St. Charles Co
Wilson's Phalarope	4/24	Dave Rogles	BK Leach CA
Red-necked Phalarope	5/22	Josh Uffman	REDA
Red Phalarope*	9/16	Charlene Malone	CL
<b>Jaegers and Skuas</b>			
Parasitic Jaeger	9/18	Dan Kassebaum	CL
Long-tailed Jaeger	9/6	Joe Eades	CL
<b>Gulls</b>			
Ring-billed Gull	1/1	m.ob	REDA
California Gull	12/2	Jim & Charlene Malone	REDA
Great Black-backed Gull	1/31	Tom Bormann & Connie Alwood	HL
Glaucous Gull	1/29	Frank Holmes	HL
Iceland Gull	1/29	Dick Coles	REDA
Thayer's Gull	1/30	Dave Becher	REDA
Lesser Black-backed Gull	1/8	Frank Holmes	HL
American Herring Gull			
Bonaparte's Gull	3/19	Josh Uffman	REDA
Laughing Gull	6/11	Dave Rogles	REDA
Franklin's Gull	1/2	Charlene Malone	REDA
Sabine's Gull	9/16	Charlene Malone	CL
Black-legged Kittiwake	11/6	Travis Mehan	CL
<b>Terns</b>			
Caspian Tern	4/14	Tom Bormann & Connie Alwood	REDA
Common Tern	5/14	Frank Holmes	HL
Forster's Tern	4/30	Frank Holmes	HL
Least Tern	5/22	Joe Eades	Mariana RD
Black Tern	4/30	Charlene Malone	REDA
<b>Skimmers</b>			
Black Skimmer	9/25	Dave Becher	REDA
<b>Auks, Murres, Puffins</b>			
Ancient Murrelet	11/6	Dan Kassebaum	CL
<b>Pigeons and Doves</b>			
Rock Pigeon			
Eurasian Collared-Dove	1/1	m.ob	St. Charles Co
Mourning Dove			
Inca Dove	1/1	Tom Bormann, Connie Alwood, & Dave Becher	St. Ch Co

Species	Comments		
<b>Parrots</b>			
Monk Parakeet			
<b>Cuckoos</b>			
Black-billed Cuckoo	5/13	Jackie Chain	TGP
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	4/29	Mike Brady	Wildwood, MO
<b>Barn-Owls</b>			
Barn Owl	1/29	Terri Brandt	SNR
<b>Owls</b>			
Eastern Screech-Owl	1/27	Connie Alwood	Ferguson, MO
Great Horned Owl	1/1	Dave Becher, Tom Bormann & Connie Alwood	LCCL
Barred Owl	1/3	Dan Kassebaum	CL
Northern Saw-whet Owl	1/1	Dan Kassebaum	CL
Northern Long-eared Owl	1/28	Mike Brady	Chubb Tr. St. Louis Co
Short-eared Owl	1/24	Tom Bormann & Connie Alwood	PRKFWA
<b>Nightjars</b>			
Common Nighthawk	4/29	Mark Mittleman	LCCL
Chuck-will's-widow	5/6	Mary Ann Auer & Mike Brady	Chubb Tr St. Louis Co
Whip-poor-will	4/6	Mark Peters	Jefferson Co
<b>Swifts</b>			
Chimney Swift	4/5	Frank Holmes	Granite City, IL
<b>Hummingbirds</b>			
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	4/20	Jane Walker	Tyson Research Center St. Louis Co
Rufous Hummingbird	1/1	Chip & Susan Tynan	St. Louis, MO
<b>Kingfishers</b>			
Belted Kingfisher	1/1	Tom Bormann & Connie Alwood	HL
<b>Woodpeckers</b>			
Red-headed Woodpecker	1/3	m.ob	BCA
Red-bellied Woodpecker			
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1/3	m.ob	BCA
Downy Woodpecker			
Hairy Woodpecker	1/20	Sherry McCowan	Forest Park
Northern Flicker			
Pileated Woodpecker	1/4	Torrey Berger	BCA
<b>Tyrant Flycatchers</b>			
Olive-sided Flycatcher	5/7	Josh Uffman	Creve Coeur St. Louis Co
Eastern Wood-Pewee			
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	5/14	Alec Meilleur	TGP
Acadian Flycatcher	4/26	Torrey Berger	TGP
Alder Flycatcher	5/9	Rose Ann Bodman	Lost Valley St. Charles Co
Willow Flycatcher	5/6	Loy Barber & Bob Kleiger	Weldon Springs St. Charles Co
Least Flycatcher	4/25	Bob Kleiger	Forest Park
Eastern Phoebe	1/2	Alec Meilleur	Whitecliff Park St. Louis Co
Say's Phoebe	2/21	Mark & Mike Seiffert	CL
Great Crested Flycatcher	4/17	Sherry McCowan	TGP
Western Kingbird	4/26	Torrey Berger	Hwy 3, Granite City, IL
Eastern Kingbird	4/17	Paul & Barbara Johnson	SNP
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	5/9	Mike Thelan	Hwys 94 & 40 St. Charles Co
<b>Larks</b>			
Horned Lark	1/1	m.ob	St. Charles Co
<b>Swallows</b>			
Purple Martin	3/14	Frank Holmes	HL
Tree Swallow	2/28	Joe Eades	REDA
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	3/28	Mike Brady	CSP
Bank Swallow	4/11	Frank Holmes	HL

<b>Species</b>	<b>Comments</b>		
Cliff Swallow	4/14	Connie Alwood	REDA
Barn Swallow	3/27	Jim Zeibol	BCA
<b>Wagtails and Pipits</b>			
American Pipit	1/29	Scott Schuette	Cuivre River State Park
<b>Kinglets</b>			
Golden-crowned Kinglet	2/15	Frank Holmes & Jim Zeibol	REDA
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1/10	Mike Thelan	Buder Park St. Louis Co
<b>Waxwings</b>			
Cedar Waxwing	1/3	Tom Bormann & Connie Alwood	BCA
<b>Wrens</b>			
Carolina Wren			
Bewick's Wren	3/26	Cheryl & Don Delashmit	Franklin Co
Winter Wren	1/10	Mike Thelan	Buder Park St. Louis Co
House Wren	4/4	Jim Hickner	CSP
Sedge Wren	4/20	Mike Brady	CSP
Marsh Wren	4/17	Mike Brady	LCCL
<b>Mockingbirds and Thrashers</b>			
Gray Catbird	4/17	Alec Meilleur	TGP
Northern Mockingbird			
Brown Thrasher	1/10	Mike Thelan Buder Park	St. Louis Co
<b>Thrushes</b>			
Eastern Bluebird			
Veery	4/30	George & Terry Barker	TGP
Gray-cheeked Thrush	4/17	Jim Zeibol	TGP
Swainson's Thrush	4/17	Dale & Nancy Delaney	Lost Valley St. Charles Co
Hermit Thrush	1/10	Mike Thelan	Buder Park St. Louis Co
Wood Thrush	4/15	Mark Mittleman	TGP
American Robin			
<b>Gnatcatchers</b>			
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	3/28	Mike Brady	CSP
<b>Chickadees and Tits</b>			
Carolina Chickadee			
Black-capped Chickadee			
Tufted Titmouse			
<b>Nuthatches</b>			
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1/8	Sherry McCowan	Forest Park
White-breasted Nuthatch			
<b>Creepers</b>			
Brown Creeper	2/19	Jackie Chain	SNR
<b>Shrikes</b>			
Loggerhead Shrike	1/3	George & Terry Barker	St. Charles Co
<b>Crows and Jays</b>			
Blue Jay			
American Crow			
Fish Crow	3/13	George & Terry Barker	CSP
<b>Starlings</b>			
European Starling			
<b>Old World Sparrows</b>			
House Sparrow			
Eurasian Tree Sparrow			
<b>Vireos and Allies</b>			
White-eyed Vireo	4/15	Julie & David Scheu	TGP
Bell's Vireo	5/3	Tom Bormann & Connie Alwood	WSCA

<b>Species</b>	<b>Comments</b>		
Yellow-throated Vireo	4/20	Mike Brady	CSP
Blue-headed Vireo	4/20	Bruce Wetteroth	TGP
Warbling Vireo	4/11	Jim Zeibol & Yvonne Homeyer	BCA
Philadelphia Vireo	4/25	Paul & Barb Johnson	WSCA
Red-eyed Vireo	4/17	Dennis Bozzay	Hilda Young CA St. Louis Co
<b>Finches, Siskins, Crossbills</b>			
Purple Finch	3/29	Dennis Bozzay	BCA
House Finch			
Red Crossbill	12/1	Charlene Malone	BCA
Common Redpoll	1/1	Joe & Trish Fridel	East Alton, IL
Pine Siskin	2/18	Chris Brown	SNR
American Goldfinch			
Evening Grosbeak*	2/17	Ian Hunt	Fenton, MO
<b>Wood Warblers</b>			
Blue-winged Warbler	4/16	Brian Meilleur	TGP
Golden-winged Warbler	4/29	Sherry McCowan & Nick Barber	TGP
Tennessee Warbler	4/17	m.ob	TGP
Orange-crowned Warbler	4/17	m.ob	TGP
Nashville Warbler	4/10	Jim Zeibol	TGP
Northern Parula	4/5	Jane Walker	Tyson Research Center
Yellow Warbler	4/11	Jim Zeibol & Yvonne Homeyer	BCA
Chestnut-sided Warbler	4/17	m.ob	TGP
Magnolia Warbler	4/29	Sherry McCowan & Nick Barber	TGP
Cape May Warbler	1/20	Rachel Holser	Elsah, IL
Black-throated Blue Warbler	9/11	Mryna Deaton	Hazlitt St. Park CL
Yellow-rumped Warbler	1/30	Margie Richardson	Kirkwood, MO
Black-throated Green Warbler	4/10	Mike Brady	CSP
Blackburnian Warbler	4/28	Pat Leuders	TGP
Yellow-throated Warbler	3/27	Jim & Charlene Malone	Rockwoods
Pine Warbler	2/26	Charlene Malone	Rockwoods
Prairie Warbler	4/17	Alec Meilleur	TGP
Palm Warbler	4/21	Bob Bailey	Forest Park
Bay-breasted Warbler	5/2	Rad Widmer	Forest Park
Blackpoll Warbler	4/25	Loy Barber	TGP
Cerulean Warbler	4/17	Jim & Charlene Malone	Babler St. Park St. Louis Co
Black-and-white Warbler	3/20	Mike Brady	CSP
American Redstart	4/19	Jean Cook & Jackie Chain	TGP
Prothonotary Warbler	4/16	Frank Holmes	HL
Worm-eating Warbler	4/16	Brian Meilleur	TGP
Ovenbird	4/19	Jean Cook & Jackie Chain	TGP
Northern Waterthrush	4/15	Julie & David Scheu	TGP
Louisiana Waterthrush	3/20	Mike Brady	CSP
Kentucky Warbler	4/17	Dale & Nancy Delaney	Lost Valley St. Charles Co
Connecticut Warbler	5/14	m.ob	TGP
Mourning Warbler	5/7	Margy Terpstra	Kirkwood, MO
Common Yellowthroat	4/17	Paul & Barbara Johnson	SNR
Hooded Warbler	4/15	m.ob	TGP
Wilson's Warbler	5/9	Mary Huber	TGP
Canada Warbler	5/11	Margy Terpstra	Kirkwood, MO
Yellow-breasted Chat	4/20	Bruce Wetteroth	BCA
<b>Tanagers and Allies</b>			
Scarlet Tanager	4/17	Dale & Nancy Delaney	Lost Valley St. Charles Co
Summer Tanager	4/20	Sherry McCowan	TGP
<b>Sparrows, Towhees, Juncos</b>			
Eastern Towhee			
Spotted Towhee	3/6	Josh Uffman	BCA & WSCA



Species	Comments		
American Tree Sparrow	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Chipping Sparrow	3/23	Yvonne Homeyer	Tilles Park St. Louis Co
Clay-colored Sparrow	4/6	Bob Kleiger & Mick Richardson	TGP
Field Sparrow			
Vesper Sparrow	1/18	Sherry McCowan	Forest Park
Lark Sparrow	4/17	Bob Kleiger & Kent Lannert	Labadie, MO
Lark Bunting	12/4	Bill Rowe	WSCA
Savannah Sparrow	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow	10/	Charlene Malone	Dabbs Rd. TRNWR
Le Conte's Sparrow	4/9	Jim Zeibol	BCA
Henslow's Sparrow	3/28	Mike Brady	CSP
Grasshopper Sparrow	4/29	Mary Ann Aeur	Chesterfield, MO
Fox Sparrow	1/1	m.ob	LCCL
Song Sparrow			
Lincoln's Sparrow	2/9	Mark Mittleman	St. Charles Co
Swamp Sparrow			
White-crowned Sparrow	1/1	m.ob	REDA
White-throated Sparrow	1/1	m.ob	REDA
Harris's Sparrow	2/1	Mike Brady	WSCA
Dark-eyed Junco			
Chestnut-collared Longspur*	2/12	Dick Coles	Katy Tr. St. Charles Co
Lapland Longspur	2/8	Dave Becher	Salle Rd. St. Charles Co
Smith's Longspur*	2/8	Ian Hunt	Monroe Co, IL
Snow Bunting	11/17	Torrey Berger	Ted & Pat Jones Confluence St. Park
<b>Saltators, Cardinals and Allies</b>			
Northern Cardinal			
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	4/19	m.ob	TGP
Blue Grosbeak	5/2	Mike Brady	CSP
Indigo Bunting	4/20	Paul & Barbara Johnson	WSCA
Painted Bunting	5/14	Dave Haenni & Jeff Blunt	Katy Tr. St. Charles Co
Dickcissel	4/30	Charlene Malone	B K Leach CA
<b>Blackbirds, Orioles, Grackles, Etc.</b>			
Bobolink	4/30	Charlene Malone	REDA
Red-winged Blackbird			
Eastern Meadowlark			
Western Meadowlark	2/12	Dick Coles	Katy Tr. St. Charles Co
Yellow-headed Blackbird	4/20	Mark Mittleman	Creve Coeur Lake
Rusty Blackbird	1/1	Jim Zeibol	St. Charles Co
Brewer's Blackbird	1/1	Paul & Barbara Johnson	St. Charles Co
Common Grackle			
Great-tailed Grackle	1/15	Jackie Chain	Missouri Bottoms Rd. St. Louis Co
Brown-headed Cowbird	1/15	Jackie Chain	Missouri Bottoms Rd. St. Louis Co
Baltimore Oriole	1/2	Ian Hunt	St. Charles Co
Orchard Oriole	4/17	Jim Zeibol	Hilda Young CA St. Louis Co

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### 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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### Editor: Anne McCormack

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### Co-chair Ornithology: Mike Brady

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### Entomology: Marshall Magner

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### Member at Large: Dr. Kimberlie McCue

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kimberlie.mccue@mobot.org

### Member at Large: Mike Thelen

943 Morehouse Ln.  
St. Louis, MO 63130-2158  
314-862-6642

*May I just Summer in the Sierra*

*When we try to pick out anything by  
itself, we find it hitched to everything  
else in the universe.*

*27 July 1910 John Muir*

# Webster Groves Nature Study Society

Call 314-935-8432 for the latest bird sightings in St. Louis.

## Meetings

*Thursday April 7*

7:00 PM joint meeting with NABA at St. Louis Co. Library Headquarters on Lindbergh Blvd. Dennis Bozzay will speak on his recent trip to "Ecuador—Above the Clouds." He will show a number of slides of birds, butterflies, and plants.

*Wednesday April 6*

7 PM Board meeting at University Club Tower, 1034 S. Brentwood, 15th floor, Suite 1515. All members are welcome.

*Nature Notes deadline: Fri. March 11*

## Entomology

*Sunday April 17*

7 PM at Magner's, 516 Bacon Ave., Webster, 314-961-4588. Chris Brown will speak on "A Photographic Look at Plant/Insect and Insect/Insect Interactions."

## Botany

*Thursday March-May*

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. with field trip destination. To receive, send your e-mail address to Jack Harris <jahar@mac.com>.

## Birding

*Thursdays March-April*

8:30 AM at Des Peres Park on Ballas, one block n. of Manchester. Call Jackie Chain, 314-644-5998.

*Saturday March 26*

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

*Saturday March 26*

8 AM SLAS Meet at Riverlands with Paul Bauer and Pat Lueders. Group will drive to Horseshoe Lake later.

*Saturday April 2 & 16 & May 28*

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

*Sunday April 3*

8 AM (Note: Daylight Savings Time begins today!) Lone Elk Park. Meet Mike Brady at Chubb Trailhead, next to the park entrance.

*Saturday April 9*

8 AM Busch Wildlife Area, meet at Hampton Lake. Bring lunch. David Becher 576-1146.

*Sunday April 10*

8 AM Busch WA—Meet Jackie Chain and Rosanne Bodman at Hampton Lk.

*Saturday April 16 & May 28*

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

*Saturday April 16*

8:00 AM SLAS Castlewood SP Join Mike Brady and John Solodar on a half-day walk.

*Sunday April 17*

8 AM Castlewood Park with Sherry McCowan, meet at headquarters.

*Saturday April 23*

8 AM WGNSS Tower Grove Park. Meet at Gus Fogt site, just west of stable. Bring lunch. David Becher 576-1146.

*Saturday April 23*

8 AM SLAS Join Dave Rogles and Torrey Berger on a birding trip to BK Leach and Prairie Slough.

*Saturday April 30*

8 AM Castlewood. Meet at boat ramp. Bring lunch. David Becher 576-1146.

*Saturday April 30*

7:30 AM SLAS All-day trip starting at Shaw Nature Reserve and going on to Robertsville State Park with Connie Alwood and John Solodar.

*Thursdays May-June*

8:00 AM at Des Peres Park on Ballas, one block n. of Manchester. Call Jackie Chain, 314-644-5998. Note time change.

*Saturday May 7*

8 AM Weldon Springs Wildlife Area, Lost Valley Hiking Trail. Route D in St. Charles Co. west of Busch Wildlife. Bring lunch. David Becher 576-1146.

*Saturday May 7*

7:30 AM SLAS Tower Grove Park, meet Pat Lueders and John Solodar at the Bird Garden, NW corner of park.

*Sunday May 8*

8 AM Tower Grove Park, meet David Garcia and Bob Bailey at the Bird Garden, NW corner of the park.

*Saturday May 14*

Big Day.

*Saturday May 14*

7:30 AM SLAS Meet Nick Barber and Paul Bauer at the Kennedy Forest Trailhead off Wells Drive in Forest Park.

*Sunday May 15*

8 AM Riverlands with Torrey Berger at headquarters.

*Saturday May 21*

8 AM Shaw Nature Reserve (Arboretum). Meet at Brush Creek Trail. Bring lunch. David Becher 576-1146.

*Saturday May 21*

7:30 AM SLAS birding at Columbia Bottom. Meet MDC's Mike Arduser and John Solodar at the River Access parking lot.

*Sunday May 22*

8 AM Tower Grove Park with Sherry McCowan at Bird Garden.

*Saturday May 28*

7:30 AM SLAS Meet Torrey Berger and Dave Rogles at Little Creve Coeur Lake, behind Seeger Golf Driving Range.

*Sunday May 29*

8 AM Busch CA with Tom Parmeter at Hampton Lake.

*Saturday June 4*

7:30 AM SLAS Meet Pat Lueders and Mike Grant at Lost Valley Trail, 5.7 mi. beyond 40 and 94 in St. Charles Co.

Join **WGNS**

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

# 85<sup>TH</sup> Annual Spring Banquet on Tuesday, May 10

*Eden Seminary Commons in Webster Groves*

Our annual banquet takes place on a Tuesday evening this year. The social hour will begin at 5:45 pm. Come meet Jim Rathert, our featured speaker and well-known wildlife photographer from the Missouri Department of Conservation. Also during the social hour, Mexican Sage plants will be available for sale. A buffet dinner by Hendri's Catering begins at 6:45. During the dinner program, our 2005 Lifetime Achievement Award winner will be announced. The presentation by Jim Rathert follows, featuring photographs from his recent book, *In Focus*, with a very special bird addendum.



5:45

Social Hour

6:45

Dinner Buffet, Program with Award Presentation and Photographic Presentation by Jim Rathert

Please reserve your place at the Banquet today by using the form printed below. Send your reservation form with a check made out to WGNSS for \$23 per person.

*Refund policy:* A full refund of your reservation cost of \$23 will be given if requested before May 2. After May 2, no refunds can be made. Contact Ann Earley at 963-0103.

**Early-bird reservations: \$23 per person, must be postmarked by Thurs. April 28**

*Please note: No reminder cards will be sent this year.*

**Late reservations: \$26 per ticket, must be postmarked by Thursday, May 5**

Your check will confirm your reservation.

Send in the reservation slip below with your name and address to:

WGNSS Spring Banquet

c/o Ann Earley

1425 Bobolink Place

St. Louis, MO 63144-1128

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Early-bird reservations must be postmarked by Thursday, April 28

Late registrations must be postmarked by Thursday, May 5


I would like Spring Banquet Reservations for \_\_\_\_\_ persons

Early-bird @ \$23 per person = \_\_\_\_\_ Late @\$26.00 per person = \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions? Contact Ann Earley at 963-0103**

**webster groves nature  
study society** 

PO Box 190065  
St. Louis MO 63119

address service requested

**Non-profit Org.**

US Postage Paid

St. Louis MO  
Permit #690

exp: 31-08-2005 (0/R)

James F & Betty Adams  
35 Tulip Dr  
Saint Louis MO 63119-4660

63119+4660 A1



# **webster groves nature study society**

## *Membership Application*

Name \_\_\_\_\_


Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Call the Nature Line at **314-935-8432** for meetings and bird sightings. [www.wgnss.org](http://www.wgnss.org)

Membership categories (circle one):  
Individual or Household:.....\$20  
for 1st class mail.....add \$8  
Student.....\$10

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 

**Webster Groves Nature Study Society**