



Nature Notes

Call the Nature Line (314) 935-8432 for meeting times & bird sightings
Journal of the Webster Groves Nature Study Society, November 2006, Vol. 78, No. 9
First Issue November, 1929

THE 1993 AND 1995 MISSOURI AND MISSISSIPPI FLOODS – WILL THEY HAPPEN AGAIN SOON? NOAH WOULD ENJOY THIS TALK –AND SO WOULD YOU!

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the **WGNSS General Meeting on Thursday, November 2 at 7 PM** at the **St. Louis County Library Headquarters** in Frontenac, 1640 S. Lindbergh (just south of Hwy 40/I-64 on the east side of Lindbergh). Dr Robert Criss, Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences at Washington University, will be the speaker. Using water level measurements made by Lewis and Clark, Dr. Criss has tracked the history of flooding on the Missouri River and how will tell us how current human manipulations of rivers have dramatically changed flood events. For a synopsis of the talk and more information about the speaker, turn to Page 2.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER – Ann Earley

Our October program meeting featured Dr. Cricket Kelly and her zooarcheological research at the Cahokia Mounds Historic Site, especially in two areas where many animal remains were recovered. Numerous bird bones have been found and identified, from apparently once-common species including ducks, swans, and prairie chickens, to those more rarely-found including owls and the ivory-billed woodpecker. As Dr. Kelly pointed out, the implications of these finds for understanding ancient rituals and culture continue to raise many questions for further research. Thanks to Dr. Kelly for a very interesting and thought-provoking presentation. Please mark your calendars for our next program meeting on November 2.

At our October Board meeting, two changes in the leadership of Board Committees were discussed. Membership Chair Don Judd is stepping down from that post, which will be assumed by Board Member-at-Large Paul Brockland. Don is re-locating to Florida, where he has been spending more time in recent years. We appreciate Don's contributions to our membership development efforts and the time he has devoted to WGNSS during 2005 and 2006. Enjoy the Sunshine State, Don!

The other change concerns the Environmental Education/Scholarship Committee. Mike Flieg, chair of that committee, will be taking a leave of absence from those duties until fall of 2007. Mike's growing travel schedule for the coming months will take him away

during late winter and early spring, the busiest time of year for this committee. Committee members are planning how Mike's duties will be handled on an interim basis. Bon voyage, Mike, and we look forward to having you back with us next fall!

It's hard to believe, but the holiday season is almost here. As in years past, WGNSS will be celebrating at our annual holiday open house held with the St. Louis Audubon Society. This year's event will be held on the afternoon of Sunday, December 3 at Tyson Research Center. Please save the date, and check next month's *Nature Notes* for further details.

As usual, this newsletter is filled with the reports, observations, and activities of many WGNSS members, and we also appreciate hearing of other news regarding our members, including hospitalizations. Long-time Botany Group leader and Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Father James Sullivan has been recuperating from early October surgery. We wish him and other members who are "on the mend" a speedy recovery.

Dr. Robert E. Criss Speaks on Flood Magnification in Impacted Watersheds and the Lewis and Clark Benchmark

Jane Walker

All of us can remember the Missouri and Mississippi River floods of 1993 and 1995. These floods not only had an impact on Missouri and the St. Louis region, but Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, and Illinois. We called the flood of '93 a five hundred year flood. Some scientists predict that big river floods in the future could be equally as big, and we will not have to wait 500 years, not 100 years. Could a flood like this happen again in our life time? What factors contributed to the 93' and 95' floods on the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers?

Welcome Dr. Robert Criss, Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences at Washington University, to our general meeting on November 2, at 7:00 p.m., St. Louis County Library Main Branch. Dr. Criss is a geochemist and has been looking at the impact of rain events on ground water, flash flooding, and flooding in the St. Louis region by tracing oxygen isotopes. Using water level measurements made by Lewis and Clark on their epic journey, Dr. Criss has tracked the history of flooding on the Missouri River and how current human manipulations of river have dramatically changed flood events.

Dr. Criss received his B. S. with highest honors from Case Western Reserve in 1973, followed by a M. S. in geology (1974) and a Ph.D (1981) in geochemistry from California Institute of Technology. He has worked for the U.S. Geological Survey in isotope geology; was Professor of Isotope Geology at the University of California at Davis (1988-1994); and is currently Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences at Washington University. He has taught geochemistry, stable isotope geology, hydrology, chemical thermodynamics, geochronology, and speleology among other topics. He has authored and co-edited three books and has authored/co-authored numerous papers.

An avid reader of the Lewis's and Clark's journals, he not only found important evidence about the river levels of their day, but by using Clark's sextant readings and his dead reckoning has been able to trace his accuracy based on where magnetic north was then and is now. Last summer he mapped all the caves of St. Louis County with his son Everett, his student Jennifer Lippmann, and department associate Dr. Glenn R. Osburn. Dr. Criss is married to Dr. Anne Hoffmeister, a mineral physicist and research professor in Earth and Planetary Sciences at Washington University. They have three children.

OBSERVATIONS OF A 'NEW' BIRDER -

Paul Brockland

On April 13 I did what I've wanted to do for some time--join the Thursday bird walks. Actually I joined WGNSS a couple of years ago for this reason.

I resurrected an old interest going back to the late fifties when I earned the bird study merit badge and then led groups of Scouts and bird/nature walks for three summers.

My life list grew at a snail's pace for the next nearly 50 years. I added a few birds here and there--mostly on family vacations: a rose-breasted grosbeak in Nebraska, a cedar waxwing in Wisconsin, an osprey in Florida, a hooded oriole in California, a black-throated blue warbler in New York--but the list had fewer than 100 birds in April.

With the help and patience of Jackie Chain and the Thursday regulars, the list has grown by more than 50%. There was only one week in the past eight that I didn't add a new bird, and that day's walk was called early because of rain. Several memorable birds we've seen are a swallow-tailed kite, black-bellied plover, olive-sided flycatcher, sedge wren, blue grosbeak, painted bunting, and a multitude of warblers and sparrows.

I've gotten some much needed exercise and fresh air. I've sharpened my observational skills and have met some great people.

My memory does not work as well with sound as it does with sight, so am as bad on verbal introductions as I am on bird calls. However I've used Peterson's field mark concept to remember names, e.g., Dottie wears a cap with hat pins. So I think I could now pass a first name test.

I've looked forward to these walks the past six months and plan to continue. I have a lot to experience. I've yet to see a scarlet tanager, and all vireos are invisible. (They used to be imaginary.) But there is hope and a lot more Thursdays. (Editor's note - Paul has just been named WGNSS Membership Chair, so he will have another list to add to. We all hope his "new member" list will grow as fast as his "bird" list.)

A BIT OF WISDOM - We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is therefore not an act but a habit - Aristotle

WHAT'S AHEAD

- Oct. 18 - Science Seminar Talk - p. 11
 - Oct. 28 - Nature Conservancy Ann. Mtg., p. 11
 - Nov. 1 - WGNSS Board Meeting, p. 21
 - Nov. 2 - WGNSS Gen. Program Mrg., p. 1, 2
 - Nov. 4, 5 - Wildlife Arts Festival, St. Charles, p. 11
 - Nov. 11 - Honeysuckle Cutting, Forest Park, p. 12
 - Nov. 15 - Science Seminar Talk - p. 11
 - Dec. 3 - Christmas Party - Tyson - p. 2
 - Jan. 13-14, 2007 - Eagle Days at Confluence, p. 10
 - Jan. 24, 2007 - Science Seminar, p. 11
 - Feb. 21 - Science Seminar, p. 11
 - May 4,5 - Confluence Birding Festival, p. 10
- Group Activity Schedules:
- Botany - p. 19
 - Entomology - p. 19
 - Ornithology - p. 18-19

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

- President's Corner - p. 1
- Observations of a New Birder - p. 3
- Historian's Corner - p. 4
- August Bird Report - p. 4
- New Bird Species Discovered - p. 6
- September Bird Report - p. 6
- Happy Birthday Powder Valley - p. 9
- August Botany Report - p. 9
- News of Other Organizations - p. 10
- Members in the News - p. 12
- Forest Park Honeysuckle Cutting - p. 12
- WGNSS Welcomes New Members - p. 13
- The Great Quinine Quest, Pt. 2 - 13
- Apologies for Mailing Delays - p. 15
- Letters Received - p. 16
- Binding Plans for Nature Notes, p. 17
- WGNSS Wish List - p. 17
- Group Activity Schedules - p. 18-19
- Invitation to Membership - p. 19
- WGNSS Board Roster - p. 20
- Nature Notes Deadlines - p. 21
- Mailing Party Dates - p. 21
- MEMBERSHIP APPLN./RENEWAL FORM - p. 22**

TRIVIA - We all know of the longest rail-trail in Missouri (The Katy Trail), but what is the second-longest and where located? It was designated a National Recreation Trail in June 2006. A complimentary copy of Nature Notes for the first correct answer mailed to the editor; a free membership application blank for the second.

HISTORIAN'S CORNER – HERMANN SCHWARZ (1876-1940) - Jim Adams

The following article about Hermann Schwarz is abstracted from information provided by Phil Koenig and a Schwarz obituary by Sterling P. Jones in *Nature Notes*, Vol. XI, No. 12, 1940.

According to Jones, Schwarz told friends, solicitous about his failing health: "When I die, I want to die in a Scout uniform." He got his wish: he collapsed and died on March 21, 1940 while attending a Boy Scout Court of Honor to present awards to members of Troop 308 at the Emanuel Episcopal Church in Webster Groves. At the time of his death Schwarz was serving as an executive in the St. Louis Boy Scout Council.

According to Jones, Schwarz's love of the outdoors, of the beautiful in nature, his urge for conservation and protection of wildlife, his devotion to Boy Scout work and his desire to instill into their youthful minds a broadened view of nature's ways he called his avocation and resented that this avocation, so dear to him, should be called a hobby. A member of the Naturalist Club, the St. Louis Bird Club, the Webster Groves Nature Study Society and the Wildflower Club, he maintained his interest in all of them until his death.

At "Schwarzwold", his wildwood retreat in an Ozark valley, he organized a Lone Scout tribe of farm boys and the door of his cottage was never closed to his nature loving friends. As chairman of the Legislative Committee of the Audubon Society of Missouri, he was always keenly on the alert for violators of wildlife protection laws.

Hermann was active in WGNSS. It is recorded in *Nature Notes* that he served as Chairman of WGNSS's participation in the St. Louis Flower Show. He also served as First V. P. of WGNSS in 1937/38 and 1938/39. At his home at 625 Tuxedo Blvd. in Webster Groves he hosted innumerable WGNSS general meetings.

Hermann was born in Onasbruck, Germany on March 27, 1876. He came to America at age 9. He was the youngest of four brothers, all naturalists. He was entirely self-educated. A brother, Frank Schwarz, a renowned taxidermist, was the founder of the St. Louis Zoological Society (the present day Zoo). Frank lived at the Hermann Schwarz home for the last eight years of his life after the death of his wife and maintained his taxidermy studio at 1809 Lafayette Ave. with his two sons Paul and Max.

Hermann Schwarz was in the printing business and for a number of years operated the Mid-West Nature Supply House as a hobby. He also contributed a number of papers to the *Entomological News*.

AUGUST BIRD REPORT – Jim Ziebol and Yvonne Homeyer

Introduction: Undoubtedly, the bird of the month and the most outstanding bird of the year was the Swallow-tailed Kite reported by Charlene Malone on 8/10. According to John Vogel, manager of Busch Wildlife, the kite was originally seen on 8/6 by Mark Howell of the USFWS; however, the sighting was not communicated to the birding community. Charlene's subsequent identification and MoBirds alert has allowed scores of birders from many states to see this beautiful bird.

Sightings: On 8/7, Mike Brady located a few Black-crowned Night Herons and immature Little Blue Herons at CSP. Twenty-nine Blue-winged Teal and a Gadwall were found at HL on 8/14 (FH) and on 8/20, Mike Thelen had 75 teal at Two Rivers NWR. Shovelers

returned to Winfield Dam on 8/18 (D Rogles) and at HL on 8/21 (FH). Three Pintails were found at Two Rivers on 8/20 (M Thelen). Mike also located a King Rail at BK Leach on 8/12. A Common Moorhen was seen with 4 young at HL in early August (FH). A Piping Plover was a good find at HL on 8/1 (CM) and later that afternoon, 2 were present there (FH). On 8/20, Josh Uffman reported 4 Willets and 2 Caspian Terns at Winfield Dam. Mike Thelen estimated 3,000 shorebirds at Two Rivers on 8/20, including 2 Buff-breasted, an Avocet (CA), and a Red-necked Phalarope. On 8/3, Charlene Malone reported 3 Upland Sandpipers at Keeteman Road and 75 Black Terns, 1 Least Tern, 4 Caspian Terns, and several medium-sized Terns at Winfield Dam. One adult and a first-year Caspian Tern were seen at Swan Lake on 8/15 (Thursday Group, P Brockland). Frank Holmes reported 6 Black Terns at HL on 8/19. On 8/26, 19 species of shorebirds were found at the sod farms along Hwy. 79, including 4 Willets, Sanderling, Western Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, and Am. Golden Plover (T Bormann, D Rogles).

Ospreys were first reported on 8/27: 1 was seen at Winfield Dam (YH) and 1 was found at BCA (JU). A N. Harrier was seen in Lincoln County on 8/26 (T Bormann, DR). While searching for and observing the Swallow-tailed Kite, birders also saw an impressive number of migrating raptors: a Merlin on 8/11 (M Grant, JZ), and on 8/12, 3 Mississippi Kites, a Sharp-shin, a Cooper's Hawk, a Broad-winged Hawk, 3 Red-shouldered Hawks, 10 Red-tailed Hawks, 2 Kestrels, and 1 unidentified falcon (MT). On 8/11, Jim Ziebol found the first migrating Nighthawk in Richmond Heights, and on 8/15, Connie Alwood saw one at his home in Ferguson. On 8/19, Tom Bormann and David Rogles reported a large number of Nighthawks passing through at Busch Wildlife: "We ran into a broad front of migrating nighthawks – the line extended from the headquarters to the far side of the prairie, and from the prairie north ½ mile or so. We had a couple of fields where there were more than 50 birds in the air." [Ed: In the early to mid-1990s, hundreds of Nighthawks would often be seen in late afternoon and early evening at TGP.] On 8/15, Frank Holmes located an Olive-sided Flycatcher at HL. A flock of 20 Eastern Kingbirds was seen at the island at Hampton Lake, BCA, on 8/19 (T Bormann, DR). Louisiana Waterthrush, Kentucky, N. Parula and a vocalizing Yellow-throated Warbler were found at CSP on 8/9 (MB). Early migrants included a Black-and-white Warbler and Nashville Warbler seen at TGP on 8/15 (GA). On 8/27, Tom Kennedy found Black-and-white, Redstart, Canada Warbler, and 4 Red-eyed Vireos at TGP. Sherry McCowan reported Magnolia Warbler and Redstart at TGP on 8/30. A flock of 23 Grasshopper Sparrows was seen in a light morning rain at BK Leach on 8/26 (T Bormann, DR). Two fledgling Lawk Sparrows were found at Bend Road, HL, on 8/20 (YH, SM), confirming nesting there. Good birds for the Thursday Group on 8/31 included 20 Buff-breasted Sandpipers on Keeteman Road, an Osprey at Winfield Dam, Sedge Wren and Sanderling at Clarence Cannon, and a Loggerhead Shrike near Elsberry (J Chain).

Backyard Birds: Several birds with albinistic traits were reported in August: an albino Eurasian Collared Dove at Jim Ziebol's home, a leucistic Mallard at BCA (JZ), a leucistic Downy Woodpecker in Lincoln County (JU), and a leucistic Bobolink in Illinois (MT). Cheryl Delashmit still had a Bewick's Wren near her Franklin County home on 8/22.

Contributors: Gail Ahumada, Connie Alwood, Paul Brockland, David Becher, Tom

Bormann, Mike Brady, Jackie Chain, Mike Grant, Frank Holmes, Yvonne Homeyer, Jim & Charlene Malone, Sherry McCowan, Mick Richardson, David Rogles, Mike Thelen, Josh Uffman, 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).

Abbreviations: Busch Conservation/Wildlife Area, BCA; Carlyle Lake, CL; Clarence Cannon, CC; Forest Park, FP; Horseshoe Lake, HL; Little Creve Coeur Lake, LCCL, Lost Valley Trail, LVT; Marais Temps Clair, MTC; Riverlands, REDA; Shaw Nature Reserve, SNR; Tower Grove Park, TGP.

NEW BIRD SPECIES DISCOVERED IN COLOMBIA

A colorful new bird has been discovered in a previously unexplored Andean cloud forest. The bright yellow and red-crowned Yariguies brush-finch was named for the indigenous tribe that once inhabited the mountainous area where the new species was discovered. The government will set aside 500 acres of pristine forest where the bird lived as a national park. (*Post-Dispatch*, Oct. 10, p. A7)

SEPTEMBER BIRD REPORT – Jim Ziebol and Yvonne Homeyer

Introduction: September was a very good month for raptor sightings, and a Black-throated Blue Warbler entertained birders at Tower Grove Park for over a week.

Sightings: Charlene Malone located 2 Horned Grebes at Riverlands on 9/26. An Eared Grebe, plus a Common Moorhen, were found at HL on 9/21 by Sherry McCowan and Jim Ziebol; the Eared Grebe was also seen by Charlene Malone and Frank Holmes. On 9/28, an Eared Grebe, along with 45 Pied-billed Grebes, were seen at Creve Coeur Lake (JE). A Pied-billed Grebe returned to its winter territory in FP on 9/26 (SM). The first Pelicans reported this fall were 2 at HL on 9/18 (FH) and by 9/20, 400-500 were soaring over Poplar Street Bridge (SC) and hundreds were seen at the dredge at HL (JZ). A Neotropical Cormorant was a good find at HL on 9/5 (FH). By 9/29, Ring-necked Ducks had returned to Riverlands (JE) and on 9/28, 4 Redheads and 2 Ruddy Ducks were seen at Creve Coeur Lake (JE). Twenty-eight Avocets were observed by several groups independently on the morning of 9/30 at Riverlands (D. Becher, CM, YH). Also on 9/30, an Avocet was seen at HL (CM). During Bill Rowe's trip to Two Rivers NWR on 9/2, the group observed 3 Sanderlings, 2 Sora, and Marsh Wrens. On 9/9, 4 Baird's, 5 Least, and 2 Semipalmated Sandpipers were seen at the Borrow Pit, HL (MT). A Woodcock was closely observed at Missouri Botanical Garden on 9/8 (JL). The Thursday Group flushed 6 Snipe at the Watershed Nature Center in Edwardsville on 9/28 (J. Chain). Buff-breasted Sandpiper sightings included several at the Keeteman Rd. Sod Farm on 9/2 (D. Becher), 20 at the same location on 9/4 (CM), and 1 with a Baird's at Nichols Pond, HL, on 9/18 (FH). A road-killed Sora was found at Tyson on 9/20 (NB). On 9/30, along Wise Road at Riverlands, several Sora were heard calling (JZ, YH). The first Franklin's Gull of the fall was seen at HL on 9/24 (FH). Mike Thelen found a first-winter Laughing Gull at the Borrow Pit, HL, on 9/9. The same bird was re-found at Riverlands on 9/17 (JU). The first Lesser Black-backed Gull of the fall was seen at Riverlands on 9/11 (CA). Sabine's

Gulls were first reported at Riverlands on 9/10 (JU) and were later seen at CL on 9/15 (DK). Caspian Tern sightings included 25+ at Winfield on 9/4 (CM) and 1 at HL on 9/16 (SC). On 9/3, a few Black Terns were observed at HL (FH).

Two Ospreys were observed over Hampton Lake, BCA, on 9/2 (JZ). A Harrier was reported at HL on 9/24 (FH). On 9/21, the Thursday Group encountered 2 Cooper's Hawks in TGP (J Chain). The Hawk Watch on 9/24 at Mark Peters' prairie was an exceptional day - 1 Turkey Vulture, 7 Osprey, 2 Harriers, 34 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 20 Cooper's Hawks, a possible Goshawk, 1,660 Broad-winged Hawks, 3 Merlins, 1 Peregrine Falcon, and 1 Kestrel (MP, D Rabenau). [At hawk watches in the early 1980s, Sharp-shins outnumbered Cooper's by 10 to 1; on 9/24, the ratio was 1.7 to 1 (JZ)]. On 9/25, 250 Broad-winged Hawks and 3 Peregrines were reported at Mark Peters' prairie (MP) and on 9/27, Mark saw 200 Broadwings and 1 adult Bald Eagle. Also on 9/24, at Weldon Springs CA, Joe Eades counted 719 Broadwings and 9 Sharp-shins. On 9/26, 400 Broadwings, several Turkey Vultures, and a Peregrine Falcon were seen at CSP (MB). Shawn Clubb counted 38 Nighthawks near Sauget on 9/7. Towards evening on 9/29, 125+ Nighthawks were seen migrating over TGP (SM, JZ). On 9/26, Jackie Chain located a Barred Owl in TGP that Jean Cook had seen earlier in the day. Jackie observed a young hawk flying at the owl, cackling the entire time. The owl sat calmly on its branch, ignoring the antics of the agitated hawk. The first Sapsucker reported this fall was seen at TGP by the Thursday Group (J Chain). Frank Holmes reported a Winter Wren at HL on 9/24, and by 9/29, several were seen in TGP (GA). Jean Cook found Marsh Wrens in TGP on 9/18 and 9/25. Sherry McCowan observed several Marsh Wrens, a Sedge Wren and about 20 House Wrens in FP on 9/25. On 9/30, 4 Marsh Wrens were seen at Riverlands along Wise Road (JZ, YH). A Ruby-crowned Kinglet was seen on the early date of 9/12 in TGP (SE). Ruby-crowned Kinglets and Brown Creepers were present at HL on 9/29 (FH) and at TGP on 9/29 (GA). Six Catbirds and 2 Brown Thrashers were found in FP on 9/15 (SM). A Veery at FP on 9/3 was a good find for the fall (MT). Red-breasted Nuthatches were reported at BCA, Lake 8, on 9/26 (CM) and one was seen at TGP on 9/29 (GA).

On 9/21, the Thursday Group enjoyed a small warbler fallout which occurred at the Cypress Circle of TGP, where they saw many Black-throated Greens, Chestnut-sided, and Black-and-white, plus Tennessee, Magnolia, Nashville, and Redstart (JC). Several Mourning Warblers were found this fall, including 1 at HL on 9/3 (FH), an immature at TGP on 9/4 (SC), and another at TGP on 9/10 (SE). A Cape May Warbler, a good find in the fall, was seen along with Yellow-rumps and a Parula at HL on 9/18 (FH). A Golden-winged Warbler seen this fall at TGP on 9/30 was somewhat late (D Becher). Jim Hickner reported a male Black-throated Blue Warbler at TGP on 9/29. This cooperative bird stayed in the same area until at least Thursday, 10/5, to the delight of many birders who found it relatively easy to spot the Black-throated Blue as it kept returning to the same group of trees and shrubs near the creek and Jack Van Benthuisen pond. On 9/19 at the Cypress Circle of TGP, a dozen Black-throated Greens, Chestnut-sided, Magnolia, Nashville, Baybreasted, Cape May and 5 Redstarts were seen by Shawn Clubb, Julie Randle and Jack Cowan. September 9 was a good day for warblers at Columbia Bottoms and BCA, where combined sightings included 2 Nashville, Wilson's, Tennessee, 5 Redstarts, 3 Canada, 5 Magnolia, 5 Black-and-white, 2 Golden-winged, Black-throated

Green, plus 3 Rose-breasted Grosbeaks (T Bormann, D Rogles). Nick Barber reported Least Flycatcher, 2 Yellow-bellied Flycatchers, plus Nashville, 5 Black-and-white, Chestnut-sided and 2 Redstarts at TGP on 9/17. Les Jenkins found 2 juvenile Blue Grosbeaks and 2 Dickcissels at Ellis Island, Riverlands, on 9/16. The first Junco of the season was banded at World Bird Sanctuary on 9/21 by Pat Lueders. Six Lincoln's Sparrows, several Swamp Sparrows and a Pine Siskin were seen on 9/25 at FP (SM). On 9/29, 10 Lincoln's, a Savannah, 20+ Swamp Sparrows, 2 Bobolinks and a Sora were present at Riverlands (JU). On 9/30, Shawn Clubb found LeConte's and a Sharp-tailed Sparrow at LCCL, one of the finest remaining natural wetlands in the St. Louis area. Other sparrow sightings included White-crowned Sparrows at BCA on 9/28 (D Rogles), White-throated at FP on 9/28 (SM), and Fox Sparrow at CC on 9/30 (JE). The Sunday Walk at TGP on 9/10 included sightings of Cooper's Hawk, Canada Warbler, Swainson's Thrush, and Least and Traill's Flycatcher (IH).

A typical day at MTC on 9/30 included 40 Eurasian Tree Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, 2 Ruby-crowned Kinglets, 30 Goldfinch, 20 Tree Swallow, 1000+ Brownheaded Cowbirds, 100 Red-winged Blackbirds, 1 Indigo Bunting, 20 Bluejays, 1 Brown Thrasher, 4 Carolina Wrens, 2 Tufted Titmice, 2 Cardinals, Phoebe, 4 Turkey Vultures and 100 Pelicans (A McCormack).

Backyard Birds: On 9/10, Larry Wells had Blackpoll and Redstart in Rock Hill. During the summer, he had many sightings of Mississippi Kites, and a pair of Cooper's Hawks fledged 2 young in his yard. Margie Richardson found Golden-winged Warbler, Magnolia, Redstart, Black-throated Green, and Common Yellowthroat in her yard. Randy Korotev reported 20 Cormorants flying over his University City home on 9/24. On 9/19, Clarence Zacher saw a House Finch at his home. During the week of the 24th, several Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were reported by Dennis Bozzay, Charlene Malone and Margy Terpstra. Margy also had Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and several Broad-winged Hawks on 9/26. Also during the week of the 24th, Joe Pennell reported a possible immature Black-chinned Hummingbird.

Contributors: Gail Ahumada, Connie Alwood, Nick Barber, David Becher, Tom Bormann, Dennis Bozzay; Mike Brady, Jackie Chain, Shawn Clubb, Jean Cook, Jack Cowan, Joe Eades, Steve Ewer, Jim Hickner, Frank Holmes, Yvonne Homeyer, Ian Hunt, Dan Kassebaum, Judy Lamotte, Pat Lueders, Charlene Malone, Anne McCormack, Sherry McCowan, Randy Korotev, Joe Pennell, Mark Peters, David Rabenau; David Rogles, Bill Rowe, Margy Terpstra, Mike Thelen, Josh Uffman, Clarence Zacher, Jim Ziebol.

Abbreviations: BCA, Busch Conservation Area; CC, Clarence Cannon NWR; CL, Carlyle Lake; CSP, Castlewood State Park; FP, Forest Park; HL, Horseshoe Lake; LP, Lafayette Park; LCCL, Little Creve Coeur Lake; MTC, Marais Temps Clair; TGP, Tower Grove Park.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. – Margaret Mead

HAPPY BIRTHDAY POWDER VALLEY

Powder Valley Nature Center in Kirkwood is celebrating its 15th anniversary. The nature center is currently updating its exhibits, but a 15-year birthday celebration is planned next spring to unveil new exhibits focusing on urban conservation. The center has had more than one million visitors to date. (*Missouri Conservationist*, October 2006).

AUGUST BOTANY REPORT – George R. Van Brunt

August 7, 2006 Botany Field Trip

The WGNSS botanists met this morning at the Litzinger Road Ecology Center in Ladue. The LREC is a 34 acre site owned by a private foundation, The Litzinger Road Ecology Foundation, and managed by the Missouri Botanical Garden. The LREC is not open to the general public, only to organized programs. The main purpose of the LREC is to teach students about the environment; the staff works primarily with children in grades K-8, but also with older people like the WGNSS botanists. The LREC was founded in the early 1990's and since that time efforts have been underway, with impressive results, to eliminate introduced invasives and restore native species to the area. We toured the LREC in two groups, one led by Malinda Slagle, the LREC's Restoration Ecologist, and the other by Mary Voges, Supervisor of Horticulture Programs. It was easy to believe we were out in the countryside instead of in the St. Louis suburbs. The LREC has bottomland forest, a stream environment (Deer Creek), and tall grass prairie, all inhabited by an impressive array of plant species. A few of the many plants we examined and photographed were *Tradescantia subaspera* (broad-leaved spiderwort), *Rudbeckia subtomentosa* (fragrant coneflower), *Pycnanthemum pilosum* (hairy mountain mint), *Tripsacum dactyloides* (gama grass), *Lobelia cardinalis* (cardinal flower), *Lactuca canadensis* (wild lettuce), *Amorpha fruticosa* (desert false indigo), *Lythrum alatum* (winged loosestrife), *Apios americana* (groundnut), *Scrophularia marilandica* (late figwort), *Conoclinium coelestinum* (mistflower), and a 12 foot high *Cirsium discolor* (field thistle), towering over the rest of the 6 foot high prairie vegetation.

August 14, 2006 Botany Field Trip

Eight sweaty botanists met on this warm, very humid morning at Lower Meramec County Park. The park includes lower Meramec River floodplain, and though heavily disturbed by human activity, has an interesting variety of native plants. We walked the paved path and explored a field that is mowed on a regular basis. Native plants that we found in bloom included *Oenothera biennis* (common evening primrose), *Persicaria punctata* (dotted smartweed), *Conoclinium coelestinum* (blue mist flower), *Desmodium paniculatum* (panicked tick trefoil), *Lactuca floridana* (woodland lettuce), *Spermacoce glabra* (smooth buttonweed), *Sida spinosa* (prickly sida), *Oenothera laciniata* (ragged evening primrose), *Persicaria pensylvanica* (pink smartweed), *Lobelia inflata* (Indian tobacco), and *Verbena urticifolia* (white vervain).

August 21, 2006 Botany Field Trip

Twelve botanists met this morning on the Don Robinson Property in Jefferson County. This privately owned property of 930 acres features many outcrops and gorges of Ordovician age St. Peter's sandstone. Nels Holmberg, the recent recipient of the Missouri Native Plant Society's

Arthur Christ Award for his contributions to conservation and restoration of Missouri native plants, led the field trip. Nels has been botanizing Don Robinson's property and making a list of the plant species found there. This area supports many plants rarely seen elsewhere in Missouri. Among the plants we saw in bloom were *Croton willdenowii* (rushfoil), *Spiranthes tuberosa* (little ladies' tresses), *Hypericum gentianoides* (pinweed), *Talinum calycinum* (large-flowered flower-of-an-hour), *Amphicarpaea bracteata* (hog peanut), *Hypericum hypericoides* (St. Andrew's cross), *Trichostema dichotomum* (blue curls), *Aureolaria grandiflora* (yellow false foxglove), and *Vernonia missurica* (Missouri ironweed). The cool, wet, sandstone gorges supported many ferns and fern allies. These included *Polypodium virginianum* (common polypody), *Asplenium rhizophyllum* (walking fern), *Osmunda regalis* (royal fern), *Cheilanthes lanosa* (hairy lip fern), and *Huperzia porophila* (cliff clubmoss), a state listed species.

August 28, 2006 Botany Field Trip

Nine botanists met at the Visitor Center of Babler State Park. The weather forecast was for steady rain and our plan was to do some practice keying out plants under a shelter. However, the forecast turned out to be wrong and we were able to botanize along an abandoned road in the northern part of the park. One of the species we found in flower was *Elephantopus carolinianus* (elephant foot), so named because of its large basal leaves. This plant is considered to be a primitive member of Asteraceae; it only has four florets in its flower head, while most members of this family have many more flowers in the flower head. *Amphicarpaea bracteata* (hog peanut) was also in bloom. *Amphicarpaea*, from the Greek ἀμφι (amphi) meaning both and καρπος (carpos) meaning fruit, refers to the two kinds of seeds made by these plants. The upper flowers, which are white to pale lilac in color, produce pods which contain inedible seeds, but the flowers near the ground, which have no petals, produce pods with comparatively large, edible seeds. The edible seeds are produced underground, and may be cooked and eaten like beans. *Urtica dioica* ssp. *gracilis* (stinging nettle) was also in bloom. The genus name, *Urtica*, is the origin of the medical term urticaria, a condition in which there is swelling and severe itching in the skin. This is more commonly known as hives, and this plant certainly can cause it. The species epithet, *dioica*, refers to the male and female flowers being on separate plants (dioecious). There were many *Rudbeckia triloba* (brown-eyed Susan) blooming along our walk. This genus was named for Olaf Rudbeck, 1660-1740, a Swedish botanist in Uppsala; he befriended Carolus Linnaeus when he was a poverty stricken student, hiring him as a tutor for his three children. How better to be immortalized than by befriending the great taxonomist Linnaeus? We also identified *Euphorbia dentata* (toothed spurge), *Euphorbia nutans* (nodding spurge), *Mollugo verticillata* (carpetweed), and the orchid *Spiranthes ovalis* (oval ladies' tresses).

NEWS OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

The Confluence Greenway – Two Events

Jan. 13 and 14, 2007 – Eagle Days at the old Chain of Rocks Bridge (for more information visit www.trailnet.org)

May 4 & 5, 2007 – Confluence Birding Festival at Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary, West Alton, Missouri (for more information visit www.wingsofspring.org)

For a copy of the organization's brochure containing a list of list of its 13 cooperating agencies and an excellent "Confluence" map, visit www.confluencegreenway.org or call (314) 436-1324 or (618) 874-8556

The Audubon Society of Missouri

ASM Fall Meeting 2006, Camp Clover Point, Lake of the Ozarks, Sept. 22-24, 2006. Questions? Call Mike Doyen at (573) 364-0020 or mdoyen@yahoo.com

The Nature Conservancy in Missouri

2006 (50th Anniversary) annual meeting at the Green Center, University City (AM) Barge trip on the Mississippi (PM). For more information, contact Cynthia Pessoni at (314) 968-1105 or at cpessoni@tnc.org

The Academy of Science of St. Louis/The St. Louis Zoo – Science Seminar Series 2006-2007

All events on **Wednesday** evenings in the Living World (North side of the Zoo), **7-9:30 PM**. Parking **free** in North lot. The general public is invited to attend these **no-cost** lectures on topical subjects.

Oct. 18 – Small Sparks, Big Ideas: The New Science of Creativity. Speaker; Dr. E. Keith Sawyer, Prof. of Education and Psychology, Washington University.

Nov. 15 - Small is a Really Big Place: Nanoscience in Missouri. Speaker: Dr. Philip Froundorf, Assoc. Professor of Physics, University of Missouri – St. Louis

Jan. 24 – Pandemic Influenza: Prospects for Prevention. Speaker: Dr. Robert B. Belshe, Professor, Internal Medicine/Infectious Diseases and Director, Center for Vaccine Development, St. Louis University.

Feb. 21 – Alien Invasion: Rare Plants and Invasive Species-Ecological Causes and Conservation Issues. Speaker: Dr. Tiffany Knight, Asst. Professor of Biology, Washington University.

Conservation Federation of Missouri/Missouri Wildlife Artist Society

Second annual Missouri Wildlife-Arts Festival, Nov. 4-5 at the St. Charles Foundry Art Center, 520 N. Main Center, St. Charles. Hours are 9 AM to 5 PM on Nov. 4 and noon to 4 PM on Nov. 5. More information at (800) 575-2322, (573) 498-3479 or ron@openspacecouncilstl.org

Obstacles are those frightful thing you see when you take your eyes off your goal –
Henry Ford (1863-1947)

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS – Jim Adams

Robert Rubright was luncheon speaker at the monthly meeting of Experience, Inc. at the University Club on September 20. Experience, Inc. is a retired businessman's club with about 125 members. Rubright spoke on "St. Louis Eateries", a change of pace for the well-known author of hiking books. I was present at the luncheon and learned that Bob has been assembling data on St. Louis restaurants since the early nineties by personal visits and other means. (He's still trim!) He has established personal relationships with many restaurateurs and has acquired much behind the scenes information. He has visited more than 600 eating establishments and gave the group his TOP 10 LIST. (Unfortunately I didn't have pencil and paper handy to record the names.) It's very evident that he's used applied the same attention to detail that makes the narrative in his *Walks and Rambles in and Around St. Louis* and other books so interesting. I'm looking forward to his forthcoming book on St. Louis Eateries, which will be published in early 2007. I'm sure we all wish Bob well in this new publishing venture.

Jim Ziebol and **Dennis Bozzay** scored big in a full-page article (p. 10A) in the Oct. 6-12, Vol. 29, No. 13 issue of the *Webster-Kirkwood Times*. The article, "Butterfly Watch" contains striking color photos of butterflies/caterpillars (by Bozzay) and a large color photo of smiling Jim and Dennis in the midst of New England asters in Bozzay's Crestwood garden. The article describes the activities of the two men in the local chapter of NABA (North American Butterfly Association). It also describes Dennis's Crestwood garden and the Jim Ziebol Butterfly garden at the Busch Conservation Area. The history of the local chapter of NABA is also given. Dennis and Jim are, respectively, director and president of the local NABA chapter. Jim is also Co-Chair of WGNSS's Ornithology group.

Nels Holmberg has been a recent recipient of the Missouri Native Plant Society's Art Christ Award for his contributions to conservation and restoration of Missouri native plants. Nels has been a faithful member of the Botany Group and this group's field reports sometimes note that a difficult identification problem has been referred to Nels for resolution. It was of interest to your Editor to learn that such a distinguished member of WGNSS as Christ has been honored by an achievement award named for him. Christ (1906-1991) was active in WGNSS for 50+ years and was president 1942-43. He is unquestionably the most prolific contributor of botany articles to *Nature Notes* in the history of WGNSS. In his earlier and again in his later years he contributed a scholarly monograph on a plant species almost monthly. After his death an Art Christ Nature Trail was dedicated at Tyson in his honor by the Friends of Tyson organization.

FOREST PARK HONEYSUCKLE CUTTING AND TREE PLANTING— NOVEMBER 11 – Randy Korotev

This year's honeysuckle extermination extravaganza in Forest Park will happen on November 11, 9:00-noon. We will begin the attack on a new area this year. Old-timers know that means there will be some REALLY BIG ONES, which, of course, are the most fun to cut down. Meet at the northeast corner of Government Hill.

across from the Boat House. Park along Government Drive to Pagoda Circle, or south of Pagoda Circle along McKinley Drive and Carr Lane Drive.

In the afternoon, 1:00-4:00, we will plant some native trees and bushes in the remnant of the Kennedy Forest between Wells Drive and I-64. This area has been largely cleared of honeysuckle. Park on Wells Drive between the Department of Conservation sign and the western boundary of the zoo; walk south to remnant woods.

WGNSS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Mark Paradise, St. Louis, MO 63146
Sally Fabbri, Chesterfield, MO 63017

THE GREAT QUININE QUEST – A BOOK REVIEW – Jim Adams Part 2 (cont'd from October Issue)

because it meant that cinchona could be harvested in Columbia and shipped straight to Spain from Cartagena rather than having to be shipped around the Horn. The discovery also suggested that the range of cinchona was much greater than originally thought. Charles III in 1777 sent two botanists to hunt for cinchonas in the forests of Peru and Chile, and by 1785 they had discovered seven new species of cinchona and gathered specimens. However, their journals and some of the specimens were lost in a fire at their hacienda. The remaining specimens were shipped to Cadiz but were lost in a shipwreck and never reached Spain.

In 1783 Charles III, in response to Mutis's pleas, appointed him chief botanist and astronomer for New Granada. Gathering a group of talented naturalists and artists, he scoured Columbia's mountains and river valleys for new species of cinchona, eventually amassing a huge collection that he stored in a specially constructed library. By 1791 Mutis had a staff of ten scientists and fifteen artists. The most talented was Francisco Jose de Caldas. Caldas conducted a thorough survey of the cinchona forests of Ecuador and Columbia and described twenty-two species. He kept careful data on range and habitat, noting that the most valuable species were found in the 4,000 to above 10,000 ft. range. The information he gathered was later crucial to the success of transplanting cinchona overseas.

In 1801 Alexander von Humboldt and Aime Bonpland arrived in Bogota to visit Archbishop Mutis and received a royal welcome by Mutis and his staff. Since Bonpland was exhibiting the symptoms of malaria, he was immediately given quinine by Mutis, a trained physician. Humboldt and Bonpland remained in Bogota five months

(another authority says two months) examining the Archbishop's large collection of botanical specimens. Presumably they had many discussions about cinchona and quinine because of the great interest of Mutis and his scientific staff in this subject.

After leaving Bogota, von Humboldt and Bonpland made their famous ascent of Mt. Chimborazo. After this accomplishment they visited Loja in Ecuador, the region that figured so strongly in the cinchona story, no doubt inspired by their visit with Archbishop Mutis. As a result of this visit they showed that the Columbian *Cinchona lancifolia*, described by Mutis, was a completely different species from La Condamine's "*Cascarilla roja*". Secondly they proved that Linnaeus's description of the species he called *Cinchona officinalis* was a composite of the LaCondamine sample and the specimen Mutis had sent him years later from Columbia. Humboldt attributed Mutis's mistake to insufficient attention to the difference in leaf forms. Humboldt also pointed out that even in cinchona plants of the same species, the length and shape of leaves were affected by factors such as climate, elevation, etc. After Humboldt botanists were well aware of the complexity of the task facing them in developing a meaningful taxonomy for the cinchona family. As a final note, Humboldt re-echoed Mutis's earlier warning to Charles III about the waning supply of cinchona trees, stating that if the governments in America didn't take measures to preserve the cinchona trees from wanton cutting, their valuable product, quinine, would be lost to the world.

By the beginning of the nineteenth century European nations were becoming desperate because of quinine supply limitations and reports of reckless harvesting by the Indian bark cutters.. The British badly wanted more quinine for protection of their soldiers in India and for the general population there because malaria was rampant in that country.. The Dutch wanted quinine to protect the people in Dutch Indonesia, also plagued with malaria. The French also wanted quinine for its malaria ridden colonies in Indochina.. The obvious solution seemed to be to collect plants in South America and replant them elsewhere. One difficulty, however, was that that the plants had to be transported by sea through temperatures well below freezing at Cape Horn or higher than 100 degrees at the equator. Invariably early shipments of the plants died during the trip. In 1829 an English doctor, Dr. Nathaniel Ward, discovered that insects and plants could be shipped in a sealed herbarium-type container in which humidity and temperature remained within an acceptable range. These containers became known as "Wardian boxes". Trial shipments by sea of Australian ferns, orchids, and tea through hot and cold regions were successful, so it was concluded that the problem of shipping cinchona plants was solved. While the Wardian Box eliminated the shipping problem for cinchona trees, the problem of finding and identifying high yielding cinchona trees in the by now ravaged mountain forests remained.

Another difficult problem was that both the producing countries and the Indian bark harvesters (the cascarilleros) strongly opposed efforts to establish cinchona production elsewhere, wanting to discourage competition because the bark trade was so lucrative for both the governments and the bark harvesters. The weak, unstable governments of the area, newly freed from Spanish rule, enacted laws with severe penalties for taking cinchona plants or seeds out of the country. The cascarilleros used threats and acts of violence (such as cutting off feet) to discourage search for cinchona plants/seed by foreigners. Despite these problems the Dutch were able early on to smuggle plants/seeds out of the country in Wardian boxes and plant them in the mountains near

Batavia. However, the plants didn't do well in the chosen location and their bark contained little quinine.

Because of continuing problems with species identification, the British, at the recommendation of Sir William Hooker of Kew Gardens, sent three expert botanists to South America to identify species of high quinine content and collect plants/seed for establishment of cinchona plantations where cutting could be controlled and replanting enforced. The explorations were carried out over a decade or more. The botanists were Richard Spruce, who explored in Venezuela, Peru and Ecuador, Clements Markham who explored in Peru, and George Ledger who explored in Bolivia. All suffered incredible hardships, but only Ledger found much of interest. He made friends with the Indian Mamani, who identified the highest yield cinchona species (the *calisaya*) and helped find remaining stands of this species in the hard to reach areas near the snow-capped mountains. Eventually the British and Dutch managed to smuggle enough plants/seed out of the South American countries to establish cinchona plantations of the high-quinine *calisaya* species in Indonesia and India. Expert gardeners from Kew assisted in the establishment of the British plantations.

The Dutch were the most successful with their plantation culture, which they ran as a commercial venture. The British were more interested in providing low cost quinine for poor Indians and for its Indian garrisons and were not interested in operating the plantations for profit. Eventually Amsterdam became the world's leading market center for quinine, a situation that lasted until WW II when the Japanese seized Dutch Indonesia and the German seized the quinine stocks in Amsterdam. Eventually the intolerably high incidence of malaria in McArthur's soldiers in the Pacific theater led to a crash program to re-establish cinchona plantations in South America. All of the former quinine producers cooperated except Bolivia, probably still bitter over the loss of its quinine industry in the last century. Thus Manami's *calisaya* was returned to the land of its origin. But these plantations were not immediately productive and it was necessary to turn to quinine substitutes. Atabrine was used initially, and chloroquine a little later. Atabrine was not popular because of unpleasant side effects.

The battle against malaria is not yet won because drug resistant strains of malaria were observed as early as 1910, and strains of malaria resistant to the other anti-malarials have also been observed. As a final note, a reminder of the great quinine quest of the Nineteenth Century still exists today. The popular gin and tonic drink was invented by British soldiers in India in the nineteenth century as a convenient way to take their daily dose of quinine to stave off malaria.

The above review gives only meager details of this difficult botanical puzzle and its eventual solution. Readers may wish to procure a copy of the book and read the full story. The book also covers the medical aspects of malaria and documents some of the famous victims of the disease and its worldwide impact. An interesting historical question: why didn't von Humboldt contract the disease, from which his companion Bonpland nearly died?

APOLOGIES FOR MAILING DELAYS

Most members receive their monthly copies of *Nature Notes* by inexpensive bulk mail, which is used to keep mailing costs low. But you should know that sometimes your copy may be received as late as ten days after mailing. If you'd like next-day or second-day

after mailing delivery, this can be had by paying an \$8 additional "first class" fee along with your membership renewal payment. Some members pay this fee. The membership renewal form on the last page of each issue has a "first class" box you can check when you send in your annual renewal check.

The possibility of slow delivery, inherent in bulk mail mailings, should be kept in mind by those submitting meeting/activity schedules for printing in *Nature Notes*. It's possible that if advance schedules are not submitted for at least two future months, some readers may not get the information in time to participate.

LETTERS RECEIVED

From Joan Hood of the Webster Groves Garden Club Association, Oct. 20. Joan expressed appreciation for *Nature Notes* coverage of the Blue Star By-Way Memorial marker at Ruhe Park on September 10.

From John Karel, Director, Tower Grove Park. John thanked WGNSS for its gift for storm recovery clean-up of the park. The key paragraph from the letter is reproduced below:

On behalf of Tower Grove Park please accept our warmest thanks for your recent donation of \$500.00 toward the storm recovery cleanup project in memory of Mildred Anderson, Dorothy Heinze, Carol Loewe, and John Molyneaux. This timely gift helps in the struggle to clean the park after the devastating July 19th storms. Your contribution is wonderful way to honor the memory of your late members, several of whom I knew personally and whose memory I also cherish very much indeed.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Help is on the way for threatened species along Mississippi bluff areas of Illinois.

This area of Mississippi River bluffs along the Great River Road in Jersey County is included in a new Illinois program to aid threatened and endangered species.

(*Post-Dispatch*, Sept. 25, 2006, pp. C10)

Study warns of rapid rise in earth's temperature.

A study warns that the earth's temperature is approaching a level not seen in a million years, implying we are getting close to "dangerous levels" of human pollution.

(*Wall Street Journal*, Sept. 25, 2006, p. A2)

Program brings great outdoors to schools

Kindergartners at Spoede Elementary School visited St. Louis Science Center, the Missouri Botanical Garden, and the St. Louis Zoo without leaving their school. They did this by climbing into a 37-foot "Investigation Station" on the school parking lot.

Investigation Station is part of a program, called MySci, designed to give young school children an interactive experience. (*Post-Dispatch*, Oct. 2, 2006, p. C4) (Cont'd next page)

Inside the failure of \$8 billion effort to save prized fish.

The Bonneville Power Administration, responding to concern about dwindling fish populations, has spent more than \$8 billion helping salmon travel from their mountain streams to the Pacific Ocean and back again. The agency reports that in any given year, only 1% to 3.5% of the fish complete the 1800 mile round trip fish trek. Fish scientists say the success rate should be at least twice this. (*Wall Street Journal*, Sept. 19, 2006, p. A1).

Places We Must Save – World Parks at Risk

America's threatened sanctuaries; inventory/map of parks worldwide; Paris—space for the soul. (*National Geographic*, Vol. 210, No. 4, Oct. 2006)

BINDING PLANS FOR NATURE NOTES

At the Oct. 4 Board meeting approval was given for binding an additional volume of *Nature Notes* (2001-2004) and one or two index volumes for already-bound yearly volumes. Annual indexes for 2001-2004 will be bound with these years). Some readers may not know that a complete archival file of buckram-bound *Nature Notes* volumes is on file in the Missouri Botanical Garden Library. The newly available annual indexes are arranged topically (e.g. under headings such as botany, entomology, conservation, ornithology, people, administrative, etc.) for ease of information retrieval,

You also may not know that indexes of all volumes (1929 to the present) are available in the WGNSS website (www.wgnss.org). Likewise, a complete unbound file of *Nature Notes* is maintained by the Historian at his home, and copies of desired past articles can usually be obtained from him without having to visit the MoBot Library.

WANTED BY WGNSS

Did you know WGNSS has a "Wish List"? WGNSS Board members believe it would be beneficial for the Society to obtain a projector for PowerPoint slides for use at our meetings. Many of our speakers use PowerPoint slides in their presentations. Having a projector for Society use would allow us to better accommodate our speakers and allow them to provide informative, high quality presentations for our members. If you would like to make a contribution to help us purchase a projector, please contact one of the Society officers.

FINIS – NATURE NOTES, Nov. 1969, pp. 123

Hardly Kipling or Keats:

Oh, what a funny little bird the frog are.

For the little tail him almost hardly ain't got any

When him fly, him hop-

And when him hop, him sit.

On the little tail which him almost hardly ain't got any

Webster Groves Nature Study Society – Founded 1920
GROUP ACTIVITY/WALK SCHEDULES
 November 2006 Update

<u>Date</u>	<u>Meeting Place</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Leader</u>
ORNITHOLOGY – SATURDAY Bird Walks – David Becher (314-576-1146) (If destination not given, it's "Where the Birds Are". Always bring lunch.)			
Oct. 21	Riverlands Teal Pond	8 AM	Becher
Oct. 28	County Library	8 AM	Becher
Nov. 4	County Library	8 AM	Becher
Nov. 11	Riverlands Teal Pond	8 AM	Becher
Nov. 18	Riverlands Teal Pond	8 AM	Becher
Nov. 25	County Library	8 AM	Becher
Dec. 2	Riverlands Teal Pond	8 AM	Becher
Dec. 9	County Library	8 AM	Becher

ORNITHOLOGY – THURSDAY BIRD WALKS – Jackie Chain – Leader (314-644-5998)

The Thursday trips will continue to meet at Des Peres Park. Beginning with the first Thursday in September (Sept.7), the meeting time will change to 8:30 AM to help accommodate the increased road traffic once school begins. There will be no formal trip on Thanksgiving Day. The 8:30 time will continue until Spring with the date for the time change to be advised later. Also, any changes following 2007 Highway 40 chaos will be decided upon in 2007.

ORNITHOLOGY – SUNDAY BIRD WALKS

(New birders are **cautioned** to dress for the weather. Bring binoculars if you have them.)

Note: For more information about these events, call Jim Ziebol at (314) 781-7372

Oct. 29	Horseshoe Lake State Park Causeway	8 AM	F. Holmes, J. Ziebol
Nov. 5	REDA (Riverlands) Visitor Center parking lot	8 AM	T. Berger
Nov. 19	Busch Conser. Area Hampton Lake Parking Lot	8 AM	T. Parmeter
Dec. 3	Carlyle Lake (Concentrating on owls and water birds) Meet at the McDonalds at the junction of Hwys. 50 at 127 just outside Carlyle City.	8 AM	D. Kassebaum

(Cont'd next page)

Dec. 17	Two Rivers NWR	8 AM	J. Cowan , S. Clubb
Feb. 4, 2007	Baldwin Lake Boat Launch Parking Lot	9 AM	K. Lannert
Feb. 11, 2007	REDA (Riverlands) Visitor Center Parking Lot	8 AM	M. Thelen

BOTANY WALKS – Jeannie Moe – Co-Chair , Co-Leader (636-946-9802)
George Yatskievych – Co-Chair (314-577-9522) – Work Phone
Leader – Fr. James Sullivan (starting his 40th yr. in January, 2006)

Botany walks are on Monday. The Botany group visits many of the same locations as the Bird and Butterfly Groups: Busch Conservation Area, Shaw Nature Preserve, the Missouri Botanical Garden, Babler State Park and Cuivre River State Park. Learning plants will help you learn butterfly host plants. Sign up for Botany Group E-mails from Jack Harris (jahar@mac.com) or 314-368-0655 and receive an E-mail every Sunday, sometimes earlier, about the next Monday's trip.

ENTOMOLOGY GROUP ACTIVITIES – Rich Thoma, Chair (314-965-6744)

Sunday, October 22, 2006 - 7 PM – “The Japanese Pavement Ant, *Tetramorium tsushimae*, an Introduced Species Common to the St. Louis Area”, will be presented by Keefe Reuther, graduate student at St. Louis University and winner of the 2006 WGNSS Scudder scholarship. This meeting will also take place at the home of George Winkler, 10 Covington Ln., Olivette, MO (314-993-1652).

Sunday, November 19, 2006, 7 PM – “The Coleoptera of Cuivre River State Park” will be presented by WGNSS member Larry Watrous. This meeting will also take place at the home of George Winkler, 10 Covington Ln., Olivette, MO (314-993-1652).

NOTICE: WGNSS cordially invites you to consider membership in the Society. Founded in 1920 in Webster Groves, it now serves about 375 households and 500 members in the bi-state area. During the past 86 years many of the state's most distinguished amateur naturalists have belonged. For a complimentary copy of the Society's journal *Nature Notes* (published since 1929), call the Membership Chairman, Paul Brockland, at (314) 961-4461 or E-mail him at pbrockland@sbcglobal.net.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

WGNS Board Members

President

Ann Earley
1425 Bobolink Pl.
St. Louis, MO 63144
(314) 963-0103
aee623@prodigy.net

1st Vice-President

Jane Walker
1132 Missouri Ave.
Kirkwood, MO 63122-1014
(314) 965-6522
walker@biology.wustl.edu

2nd Vice-President

Dr. Kimberlie McCue
5056 Milentz St.
St. Louis, MO 63109
(314) 481-3301
msokam@swbell.net

Secretary

Mike Olson
5056 Milentz Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63109
(314) 481-3301
msokam@swbell.net

Treasurer

Randy Korotev
800 Oakbrook Lane
St. Louis, MO 63132
(314) 993-0055
rlkorote@artsci.wustl.edu

Membership Chair.

Paul Brockland
405 Summit Ave
Webster Groves, MO 63119
(314) 961-4461
pbrockland@sbcglobal.net

Editor

Jim Adams
35 Tulip Drive
Webster Groves, MO 63119
(314) 961-2494
adams9054@sbcglobal.net

Environmental Education Chair.

Mike Flieg
6803 Nashville
St. Louis, MO 63129
(314) 645-3356
gmflieg@sbcglobal.net

Ornithology Chair

David Becher
12829 Mariners Pt. Ct.
St. Louis, MO 63141
(314) 576-1146
DavidBecher@msn.com

Ornithology Co-Chair.

Jim Ziebol
3900 Berger Ave.
St. Louis 63109
(314) 781-7372

Botany Co-Chair.

George Yatskievych
11949 Claychester Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63131
(314) 577-9522 (Work)
george.yatskievych@mobot.org

Botany Co-Chair.

Jeannie Moe
2419 Mayer Dr.
St. Charles, MO 63301
(636) 946-9802
jrmoe@swbell.net

Entomology Chair.

Rich Thoma
320 Frieda Ln.
St. Louis, MO 63122
(314) 965-6744
thomarkas4@sbcglobal.et

Conservation Chair.

Yvonne Homeyer
1508 Oriole Ln.
St. Louis, MO 63144
(314) 963-7750
yhomeyer@sbcglobal.net

Members-at-Large

Anne McCormack
587 Andrews
St. Louis, MO 63122
(314) 965-8091
annemccormack@sbcglobal.net

Shawn Clubb

607 Burroughs Ave.
Collinsville, IL 62234
(618) 345-2503
shawn_clubb@hotmail.com

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION (Cont'd)

Making Nature Notes Useful

Nature Notes, the Journal of the Webster Groves Nature Study Society, has long been published because of its utility in furthering the work of the Society. Its most important function is bringing the monthly program of the Society to the members - Stuart O'Byrne, June 1948 issue.

Supporting Staff

Marjorie Richardson - Newsletter Distribution
Randy Korotev - Website Manager
Barbara Perry Lawton - Brochure Coordinator/
Editor
Jim Adams - Historian
Jim Ziebol - Bird Report Compiler
Jim Ziebol - Busch WA Breeding Bird Survey
Coordinator
Jack Harris - Botany Walk Coordinator
George Van Brunt - Botany Report Compiler
Sherry McCowan - Nature Line Coordinator

Call The Nature Line!

Call (314) 935-8432 for a summary of the latest bird sightings in the St. Louis Area and dates and times of bird and botany walks; there are occasional schedule changes. 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 Deadline and Mailing Info.

The mailing party meets at the Oak Bend Library, 842 S. Holmes, Kirkwood, 10 AM-1 AM to prepare N.N. mailings. We could use your help! Call Marjorie Richardson (314) 965-8974 to volunteer. Deadline and mailing party dates for future 2006 months are below.

NN Deadline	Mailing Party
Fri 11/10	Mon 11/20
Fri 12/8	Mon 12/18

Next Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 1, at the Powder Valley Nature Center, 11715 Cragwold, 63122, Tel. 314-301-1500. Near I-44/I-270 intersection, enter from Geyer Road. Visitors are welcome. Come see your Board in action!
(If snowy or icy conditions prevail, call ahead to find if the meeting has been canceled.)

Publication Policy

Notices/Proposed Articles/Letters to the Editor must be signed to be considered. They will be considered for publication based on content and availability of space. Some editing may be done. Communications from non-member individuals or organizations must include the name and title (if any) of the sender along with a mailing address and telephone number. Send communications to the Editor, 35 Tulip Drive, Webster Groves, MO or transmit via E-mail to adams9054@sbcglobal.net

Copyright Statement

All articles in Nature Notes are printed with the author's permission. Persons or organizations wishing to reprint articles should obtain the author's permission and cite Nature Notes, published by the Webster Groves Nature Study Society, as the source. Contact the Editor.

Society Objectives

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.

*webster groves nature
study society ****

PO Box 190065
St. Louis MO 63119

Address service requested

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
St. Louis, MO.
Permit #690

WEBSTER GROVES NATURE STUDY SOCIETY

www.WGNSS.org

Renew **Your** Membership today

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zipcode _____

Phone (____) _____ E--mail _____

Call the Nature Line at 314-935-8432 for meetings and bird sightings

Membership categories (circle one):

Individual or Household.....\$20

For 1st class mail.....add \$8

Student.....\$10

Nov. 2006 - 360

Please mail this form with check to:

Treasurer: Randy Korotev, 800 Oakbrook
Lane, St. Louis, MO 63132

Make check payable to Webster
Groves Nature Study Society