

Nature Notes

Call the Nature Line (314) 935-8432 for meeting times & bird sightings

Journal of the Webster Groves Nature Study Society, February 2007, Vol. 79, No. 2

First Issue November, 1929

MAGGIE EISENBERGER TO SPEAK AT JOINT WGNSS-AUDUBON PROGRAM ON FEBRUARY 9

The February general meeting will be a joint program with St. Louis Audubon on Friday, February 9 at 7:30 PM at the Creve Coeur Government Center, 300 N. New Ballas Rd.— on the east side of New Ballas between Olive and Ladue. The speaker will be Maggie Eisenberger, who will discuss her research studies and experiences in co-managing the Cana Field Station in the Darien National Park in Panama from December 2005 through March 2006, as well as some of the 450 local species of birds found there. She reports that most visitors can see 200 bird species there in three days, Maggie teaches school at Chesterfield Day School – St. Albans and has recently completed her master's degree in tropical ecology at UMSL. Maggie is especially interested in symbiotic relationships between species. She is on the board of directors of ` Save the Rainforest and has traveled frequently and been a group trip leader to Belize, Honduras, the Peruvian Amazon, Costa Rica, Panama, Cuba, and Malawi in Africa.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER – Ann Earley

Happy New Year to all WGNSS members and friends! I hope 2007 is off to a good start for everyone. If your New Year's resolution is to learn more about our natural world, WGNSS offers many educational, outdoor, and volunteer opportunities to help you in this endeavor. Please join us at an upcoming program presentation, field trip, or meeting of interest!

Following our break from program meetings in January, our February program will be a joint meeting with St. Louis Audubon at the Creve Coeur Government Center. This program will be held on Friday, February 9 at 7:30 p.m. (see details elsewhere in this newsletter). We look forward to seeing you there!

Looking further into 2007, the WGNSS spring banquet is being planned for Wednesday, May 9 at Eden Seminary Commons. Save the date, and watch for further details in *Nature Notes*.

We are currently looking for a WGNSS member to serve as Secretary of the Society, beginning in June. The Secretary must be able to attend Board meetings, held on the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at Powder Valley Nature Center, and to prepare the

minutes of those meetings and distribute them to Board members. This position is a great way to get more involved with WGNSS and keep up with what is happening with the Society. New members are especially encouraged to volunteer for this job. For further information about being WGNSS Secretary, or to volunteer, please contact me.

Many thanks to all of the dedicated volunteers who make our WGNSS activities possible. Whether you have presented a program, been a field trip leader or participant, served on the Board, helped with mailings, or committed your time and talents to WGNSS in other ways, your efforts are very much appreciated. Thank you!

MBG'S 2nd ANNUAL MGB BACKYARD BIRD FESTIVAL

This will be held at the Missouri Botanical Garden at 6344 Shaw Avenue on February 4, 2007, 9 AM to 4 PM. WGNSS will have a table in Monsanto Hall along with other exhibitors. (Exhibits 9-3). Jim Ziebol will show his birding video in the Hall at 10:30 AM and 1:00 PM.

There will be an early bird walk in the Garden starting at 7:30 AM.

WGNSS members are invited. The notice doesn't mention admission charges, but presumably the event will be free for Garden members. For information call Jennifer Smith at the Garden (314-577-7700)

A HUMOROUS CONTRIBUTION BY John Cooper

Up From the Egg; The Confessions of a Nuthatch Avoider by Ogden Nash

Bird watchers top my honors list, I aimed to be one, but I missed.
Since I'm both myopic and astigmatic, my aim turned out to be erratic.
And I, bespectacled and binocular, exposed myself to comment jocular.
We don't need too much birdlore do we, to tell a flamingo from a towhee.
Yet I cannot, and never will, unless the silly birds stand still.
And there's no enlightenment so obscure, as ornithological literature.
Is yon strange creature a common chickadee, or a migrant alouette from Picardy?
You rush to consult your Nature guide, and inspect the gallery inside.
But a bird in the open never looks like its picture in the birdie books.
Or if it did, it has changed its plumage, and plunges you back into ignorant gloomage.
That is why I sit here growing old by inches, watching the clock instead of finches.
But I sometimes visualize in my gin, The Audubon that I audubin.

Editor's Note: Ogden Nash (1902-1971) is an American writer noted for his humorous verse.

HISTORIAN'S CORNER - Jim Adams

Tribute to a Guru - James Earl Comfort

I've selected this distinguished WGNSS birder for the January "Corner" as accompaniment to the article by him elsewhere in this issue. The information was abstracted in part from the March and April 1977 issues of "Nature Notes"

James Earl Comfort passed away on February 27, 1977. A WGNSS member since 1940, his first signed article was printed in the May 1941 issue. Except for the war years (1942-1943) Earl rarely missed writing an article each month for "Nature Notes". During the war years he served his country in the Army and was stationed for a time at Camp Robinson in Arkansas, at which time he wrote an article about birds of the Little Rock area. In 1943, presumably while convalescing from a war injury in Walter Reed Hospital, he sent "Nature Notes" articles dealing with birds of the Washington, D.C. area and others about birds seen in nearby Arlington National Cemetery and on the grounds of Walter Reed Hospital.

After returning home from the Army, he served as an indefatigable reporter for the Ornithology Group until his death in 1977. Earl also contributed to the St. Louis Audubon "Bulletin" and National Audubon's "Field Notes". In 1950 Earl sighted the rare Hudsonian godwit while birding with Roger Tory Peterson on Taussig Road in St. Louis County.

In 1948 Earl received the annual Conservation Citation from the St. Louis Audubon Society. Many distinguished WGNSSers paid tribute to Earl after his death. Tributes by Dick Anderson, Phoebe Snetsinger, Janet Neilson, Susan Grumman, Mary Ann Bodman, Dorothea Vogel, Jim Jackson, Mary Wiese, and Alberta Bolinger appear in the April 1977 issue of "Nature Notes". On May 20, 1978 the City of Kirkwood dedicated a J. Earl Comfort Memorial sanctuary in Kirkwood Park.

Another distinguished WGNSS birder, James F. (Jim) Comfort (Earl's uncle) will be featured in a later Historian's Corner.

2006 BIRD REPORT

During 2006 Shawn Clubb sighted 245 bird species within the "50 mile St. Louis radius". Send me your report for an updated 2006 top birder report in the next issue. Thanks, Shawn, for your prompt response. I'm sure others sighted more than 200 species during 2006.

WHAT'S AHEAD?

- Jan. 24 - Science Seminar - Living World - p. 12
 - Feb. 3 - Rainforest Advocates Program - p. 12
 - Feb. 4 MBG Backyard Bird Festival - p. 2
 - Feb. 7 - WGNSS Board Meeting - p. 17
 - Feb. 9 - Joint Prog. Mtg. with SLAS - p. 1**
 - Feb. 9 - Nature Notes Deadline - p. 17**
 - Feb. 16 - Scudder Scholarship Application deadline - see Jan. N.N., p. 5
 - Feb. 16-19 - Great Backyard Bird Count - see see Jan. N.N., p. 11
 - Feb. 20 - N.N. Mailing Party - p. 17
 - Feb. 21 - Science Seminar - Living World - p.12
 - Mar. 21 - Science Seminar -Living World - p. 12
 - Apr. 22-29 - ASM Spring Meeting, Salem - p. 12
 - May 9 - WGNSS Spring Banquet - p. 1
 - May 12 - Birding Big Day - p. 14
- Group Activity Schedules:
- Botany -p. 15
 - Entomology - p. 15
 - Ornithology - p. 14

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

- Joint Prog. Meeting with SLAS - p. 1
- President's Corner - p. 1
- MBG's 2nd Annual Backyard Bird Festival - p. 2
- Ogden Nash Poem - p. 2
- Historian's Corner - p. 3
- 2006 Birder Totals p.3
- Influence of WGNSS on Community - p. 4
- Fall Entomology Speakers - p. 5
- Frisco Highline Trail -p. 6
- W. G. Prog. For Greenspace Enhancement - p. 6
- December Bird Report - p. 6
- November Botany Report - p. 8
- Another Volume of Nature Notes Bound - p. 11
- The Eagle is Landing - p. 11
- Members in the News - p. 11
- News of Other Organizations - p. 12
- Book Snapshots - Ziebol - . P. 12
- Interesting Books - Zacher - p. 13
- Books I've Enjoyed - Adams - p. 13
- Group Activity Schedules - p. 14
- WGNSS Board Roster - p. 16
- Supporting Staff Roster - p. 17
- Call The Nature Line - p. 17
- Nature Notes Deadline/Mailing Dates - p. 17**
- Next Board Meeting - p. 17
- Society Objectives - p. 17
- MEMBERSHIP APPLN./RENEWAL FORM - P. 18**

THE INFLUENCE OF THE NATURE STUDY SOCIETY ON THE COMMUNITY – James Earl Comfort

(Excerpts from his talk at the A.A.A.S. Convention)

Gone forever are the days when nature study was apt to be considered sissified and male participants were usually ridiculed as “pansies.” Today, nature study has become so common in the larger communities, absence of a nature club would cause surprise to visitors interested in making nature contacts. This is especially true in regard to bird clubs, which are nationally accepted as a desired part of a municipality.

There is a vast difference, however, between the nature club of today and those of past years, when most of the members were merely pursuing a hobby, generally the study of trees, flowers or birds. Most modern societies are strongly linked with conservation, sympathetically if not actively. The nature lover of old feared extermination of fauna and flora. Today’s amateur and professional naturalists alike have the same worries, but they are doing something about it. And that includes all of nature’s resources, not just those features in which they have a particular interest. For instance, the W.G.N.S.S. has taken on a long range project in which a monthly bird count is made at the August A. Busch Wildlife Management Area, which is under the supervision of the Missouri Conservation Commission. A similar census of plant life is recorded. This may not appear important, but the counts will show a trend through the years caused by natural changing conditions and habitats of the area. Making and compiling of counts furnish valuable information for the Commission in addition to providing healthful recreation and enjoyment for the census takers.

The Field Nature League of St. Louis is making rapid strides as evidenced by two of its members taking a wildlife course at Missouri University. Both are also members of our Society, which is proud of the fact that a third member recently received his wildlife degree from Missouri U. and now holds an important place in the educational system of the Conservation Commission.

The St. Louis Audubon Society has done a great deal of good work through nature screen lectures and field trips. It has created a large amount of interest through annual St. Louis Forest Park spring bird walks open to the public, as well as the yearly May bird census, which creates great enthusiasm. Annual nature scholarship awards to deserving members have been of great value.

During my many years of birding, I found my nature study companionship has been more pleasant than any other association. Of course this is due to a large extent to a mutual interest, but I feel quite sure lovers of outdoor life are more agreeable and compatible than any other group. Most naturalists and conservation agents throughout our country welcome an opportunity to assist tourists in their desire to get to nature and there is generally a heart warming display of good fellowship.

All lovers of the great outdoors are naturalists to some degree. This includes sportsmen who seek wildlife by gun rather than through binoculars, field glasses or telescopes. The hunter or fisherman may believe his first love is securing game or the catch, but, if this be true why are absolute failures in this respect taken so lightly? Far more hunters have turned to nature walks than have nature seekers turned to hunting

lethally. And this isn't always caused by lack of game. I hold the sportsmen and nature students are brothers under the skin.

Greater St. Louis boasts of many nature organizations, some of which are more or less dormant in activity, but possess an undying interest in nature. As sure as a community without a church is not considered an appropriate one, one without some interest in nature is not an ideal one.

A large percentage of boy scout leaders are active members of nature clubs and quite naturally many of the scouts find an added outlet for nature activity in their leader's club. An inestimable amount of nature interest in our community may be credited to the influence of teachers who are nature society members. A great deal of honor is due many of these teachers for their excellent school work in nature and conservation in addition to their club or scout activities, I have yet to find a delinquent youth who was an active member of a nature organization.

Editor's Note - This article, reprinted from the April 1953 issue of *Nature Notes*, was likely prepared by Earl Comfort or the Editor, May (Mrs. Stuart L.) O'Byrne.

FALL 2006 ENTOMOLOGY SPEAKERS

The entomology group had a great series of speakers in the fall of 2006. In addition to the Show and Tell meeting (September), three entomological experts gave presentations on varying subjects including the Invasive Japanese Pavement Ant, the Beetles of Cuivre River State Park and a look at the many Bees of Missouri. A short review of each presentation follows:

In October, Keefe Reuther, graduate student at St. Louis University and winner of the 2006 WGNSS Mickey Scudder Scholarship started off the fall season talking about the Invasive Japanese Pavement Ant, *Tetramorium tsushimae*. This species of ant (a native of Japan) has recently been identified in and around the St. Louis area. There is speculation that this ant may have actually arrived as part of an Asian exhibit in the 1904 World's Fair. If this is so, its population numbers were low for many years. Only in the past 10 years have populations of the Japanese Pavement Ant exploded in the St. Louis area. Like the Argentine Ant and Fire Ant, the Japanese Pavement Ant is considered an invasive species because it incurs a significant cost to the environment. Typically, other native species of ant disappear when Japanese Pavement Ants move in. Scientific studies have shown that the Japanese Pavement Ant aggressively displaces other species of ant. The Japanese Pavement Ant prefers open disturbed areas such as those found in open lots and parks in the city of St. Louis. Its small size and omnivorous feeding habits also contributed to the ease with which it has invaded St. Louis. Keefe's project is to find out the extent of this invasion. Keefe has found populations of Japanese Pavement Ant throughout St. Louis and surrounding counties. He has found ants as far west as Columbia and Springfield and as far south as Cape Girardeau. The ants have

The subject for the November meeting was on beetle species diversity. Larry Watrous, a recent member of WGNSS talked about his efforts to collect and identify as many beetle species as possible at Cuivre River State Park. Before this survey, about 100 species were known to occur at Cuivre River State Park. As of the November meeting, and less than a year of collecting, Larry has identified 1177 species, from 82 families at the park. This is a tremendous increase in the known diversity in this group of beetles. Larry discussed the many ways he collected including insect nets, burlese funnels, black lights and bate and pit-fall traps. During the talk, Larry discussed the challenges of beetle identification. Most species are tiny and require careful examination to even get close to an identification. One must well versed in the scientific literature to identify many of the species. Despite the difficulties, Larry has been very successful with this group of insects. For those that are interested Larry has developed a web page, showmebeetles.com, describing the work done at the park and showing spectacular pictures of the many beetles collected.

Our final topic for the fall season dealt with taxonomy. Mike Arduser, Missouri Department of Conservation naturalist and longtime member of WGNSS talked about his favorite subject, bees. Mike introduced the topic by discussing the important ecological role bees play in the environment, primarily pollination. Many experts feel the bumblebee is the most important native pollinator in North America. Unfortunately, many species of bee are being replaced by an introduced species, the

honeybee. Mike talked about the many experts that have contributed to our knowledge of bee taxonomy including two people from the St. Louis area, Charles Robertson (1880-1920) and Phil Rau (1920-1950). We learned that to date, 423 species of bee have been recorded from Missouri. Most of these species feed on the many species of aster found in our state. Pollen is the most important food for many bee species though not all collect it from flowers. Among the group of 423, about 25% are considered cleptoparasites because they rob the nests of legitimate pollen collecting bees. Many of these cleptoparasitic species also leave eggs behind in these other nests. Another group of bees, also about 25%, are dependant on one specific natural community. If a natural community is rare or degraded, so too are the bees. At present there are no bee species on Missouri's species of concern checklist. Mike feels this is because we just don't know enough to make an informed decision. Habitat loss and human impacts are likely contributing to the population declines in some species.

Entomology talks during the winter of 2007 look to be just as exciting. Three talks have been lined up for the winter and spring of 2007. The first, in January, will be on the Butterflies of Missouri's Northwestern loess hills and presented by Phil Koenig. Jane Walker will speak in February on the work she has done to find the endangered Hine's Emerald Dragonfly in Missouri. In March George Winkler's talk is titled "Of Lice and Men", a spin off of a famous novel. All three talks promise to give us a greater understanding of the insects that make up our every day lives. If you have a desire to learn about something out of the ordinary, consider attending one of the WGNSS entomology talks. All are welcome.

THE FRISCO HIGHLINE TRAIL – Jim Adams

In a recent issue of *Nature Notes* I reported that the second-longest rail-trail in Missouri is located in Greene County. I spotted more information in current issue of the AAA's *Midwest Traveler*, p. 40. The article says that the trail, second in length to the Katy Trail, is called the Frisco Highline Trail. Sponsored by Ozark Greenways, the 36 mile trail was dedicated in September, 2005. The trail traverses higher country than the Katy, crossing 16 trestles, some nearly 100 yards long, and traverses Ozark border landscape with gentle hills, woods, pastures, quiet ponds, and gravel back roads. Dedicated in September, 2005, it connects Bolivar, Missouri with the Polk-Greene County line. The trail bisects the La Petite Gemme Prairie, a designated Missouri Natural Area and a remnant of the tallgrass prairie that once covered the region. The two trailheads have ample parking. For trailhead locations and other information call Ozark Greenways at (417) 864-2015 or visit www.friscohighlinetrail.org.

WEBSTER GROVES PROGRAM TO ENHANCE AREA'S GREEN SPACE- Jim Adams

The *Webster-Kirkwood Times* (Jan. 5 – 11, 2007 issue, p. 13) reports that the Webster Groves Green Space Advisory Commission (GSAC) has created a new program to help residents in the replanting process following the recent ice storm. GSAC will—at no charge—provide technical help and/or materials in the form of monetary grants to neighborhood associations and non-profit groups. Detailed information about the required applications for assistance is given. Applications must be submitted by Feb. 15 by letter to Shawnell Faber, Webster Groves Parks and Recreation, 33 E. Glendale, Webster Groves, MO 63119.

DECEMBER BIRD REPORT – Jim Ziebol and Yvonne Homeyer

Introduction: December was unseasonably warm, except for a cold front at the beginning of the month that froze Horseshoe Lake and brought a few winter gulls into the area. This same cold front brought a severe ice storm that knocked out power to half a million

people in the bi-state metropolitan area and canceled the WGNSS holiday party. Extraordinary weather events and record-breaking storms will become commonplace as global warming continues unchecked. A new book by Tim Flannery entitled *The Weather Maker* (2005) is a remarkable book that explains global warming to the general public. Dr. Flannery also wrote *The Future Eaters* and *A Gap in Nature*, both excellent books.

Sightings: The Thursday Group reported 2 White Pelicans and 28 Trumpeter Swans at REDA on 12/2 (J Chain). "It was a cold, sunny, amazingly calm beautiful day," Jackie remarked. Four to 6 Trumpeter Swans were seen in the HL area between 12/4 and 12/12 (FH). On 12/17, David Rogles reported 165 Trumpeter and 1 Tundra Swan at REDA. Mike Thelen observed either a female Barrow's Goldeneye or a Common x Barrow's hybrid at REDA on 12/3. This female duck had an all-yellow bill. Three Black Ducks and a Merlin were seen at REDA on 12/2 (SC, J Cowan). On 12/3, David Rogles observed a male and female Oldsquaw at REDA and a Snow Bunting on Confluence Road. The following were observed in the HL area by Jim Ziebol on 12/9: 200+ Canada Geese, 19 Snow Geese, 250+ Mallards, Green-winged Teal, 2 Greater Scaup, 1 Ruddy Duck, and 53 Common Goldeneyes. The only Thayer's Gull reported was a first-winter bird at the Melvin Price Dam on 12/2 (J Cowan, SC). On 12/1, a first-winter Glaucous Gull, 2 Black Scoters, and a Lapland Longspur were found at REDA (D Rogles). On 12/6, 2 Lesser Black-backed Gulls, one of them of the darker sub-species (*L. f. intermedius*), were videotaped at HL (JZ). A first-winter Lesser Black-backed Gull seen at REDA on 12/14 (Thursday Group, RAB) was later found at HL during Christmas week (JZ).

On 12/11, Jim Ziebol and his niece Joann Meehan observed an immature Red-shouldered Hawk and an immature Krider's Red-tailed Hawk at HL, and 16 Bald Eagles, 2 Cooper's Hawks, and 3 N. Harriers at REDA. The Thursday Group visited BCA and Katy Trail Access on 12/21, where they found 2 Sharp-shinned Hawks, a Red-shouldered Hawk, 2 Bald Eagles, and several Red-tailed Hawks. A Peregrine Falcon of the *tundrius* race was videotaped at HL on 12/6 (JZ). This white-breasted individual was in sharp contrast with the *Peale's* and *anatum* intergrades that reside in the St. Louis area. On 12/24, Clarence Zacher located a Kestrel in FP. On 12/28, the Thursday Group traveled to Lincoln County, where they tallied 8 Harriers, 4 Bald Eagles, a Cooper's Hawk, 3 Red-tailed Hawks, and 1 Kestrel (J Chain). Mike Thelen found 1 Short-eared Owl at B.K. Leach and 1 Short-eared Owl at CC on 12/28.

A flock of 36 Eastern Bluebirds was present on 12/31 along the Al Foster Trail (M.E. Raymond). Two LeConte's Sparrows found at REDA on 12/3 are good winter records (D Rogles). Also on 12/3, Mike Thelen found American Tree Sparrow, 1 Field Sparrow, 1 Vesper Sparrow, several Savannah Sparrows and several White-crowned Sparrows at REDA. On 12/2, more than 100 Horned Larks, 75 Lapland Longspurs and 1 Snow Bunting were seen along Confluence Road (JE). About 25 Lapland Longspurs were observed at Nichols Pond near HL on 12/3 (FH). Three male and 1 female Red Crossbills, along with 3 Red-breasted Nuthatches, were an excellent find at BCA, Lake 6, on 12/16 (JU). On a Sunday walk at Carlyle Lake led by Dan Kassebaum on 12/3, a large group of birders observed 2 Horned Grebes, several thousand Bonaparte's Gulls, a Greater Scaup, 6 Bald Eagles, 60 Cedar Waxwings and a Hermit Thrush. Dan also led

the birders directly to a Northern Saw-Whet Owl and 2 Long-eared Owls, which were lifers for some participants. Another Sunday walk was led by Shawn Clubb and Jack Cowan on 12/17 at REDA; highlights included 6 White Pelicans, 10 Green-winged Teal, 1 Wigeon, 1 Surf Scoter, and a first-year Glaucous Gull.

A typical day at Baldwin Lake on 12/9 included 10 Greater White-fronted Geese, 10,000 Snow Geese, 11 Ross's Geese, and 32 Bonaparte's Gulls (MT). A typical day at REDA on 12/16 included 1 Snow Goose, 2 Tundra Swans, 1 Am. Black Duck, 1 Greater Scaup, 1 Black Scoter, 2 Horned Grebes, 210 White Pelicans, and a Ring-billed Gull without a tail (MT).

Backyard Birds: On 12/2, Sherry McCowan found a Dark-eyed Junco with prominent wing bars in her yard. She also saw a Carolina Wren on 12/10. Jack Harris tallied 24 species for Project Feeder Watch in November and December, including Cooper's Hawk, Brown Creeper, Ruby-crowned Kinglet and numerous Eurasian Tree Sparrows. During December, Linda Virga counted 15 species, including 2 Flickers, a Red-tailed Hawk, and a Brown Creeper.

Christmas Count Highlights: *Collinsville Circle*, 12/19: 4 Screech Owls, Great Horned Owl, 47 Turkeys, 2 Mute Swans, 240 Greater White-fronted Geese, 9 Bobwhite, and a House Wren (FH, JZ).

Contributors: Connie Alwood, Nick Barber, David Becher, Rose Ann Bodman, Jackie Chain, Shawn Clubb, Jack Cowan, Joe Eades, Jack Harris, Frank Holmes, Dan Kassebaum, Sherry McCowan, Mick Richardson, David Rogles, 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.

NOVEMBER BOTANY REPORT – George R. Van Brunt

November 6, 2006 Botany Field Trip

Nine hardy botanists met at Shaw Nature Reserve in Franklin County on an overcast, drizzly, cool morning. We walked the Crescent Knoll Overlook Trail from the Trailhead Parking Lot and then left the trail to walk on the glade and into open woodland or savannah. Along the way we identified some plants still blooming, many fruiting, and many that were senescent. Among the blooming plants we saw were *Symphyotrichum anomalum* (blue aster), *S. turbinellum* (prairie aster), *S. pilosum* (white heath aster), *S. oblongifolium* (aromatic aster), *Allium stellatum* (cliff onion), and amazingly, *Castilleja coccinea* (Indian paintbrush). Fruiting plants included *Symphoricarpos orbiculatus* (coral-berry), *Pseudognaphalium obtusifolium* (fragrant cudweed), *Onosmodium molle* ssp. *hispidissimum* (marbleseed), and *Euonymus atropurpureus* (wahoo). We also found many small saplings of *Fraxinus quadrangulata* (blue ash) with their square, four-winged stems. This species gets its common name from the blue dye that can be produced when the inner bark is placed in water. Father Sullivan related that he once tried to make the blue dye, but unsuccessfully. We also identified a specimen of *Asparagus officinalis*

(asparagus), a member of the lily family, that had grown on the glade. This is the edible European asparagus that often escapes cultivation, although the senescent plant did not look very much like the young shoots that people eat; it was about 6 feet tall with many thin spreading branches. The name asparagus goes back to Classical Greek times; the Greeks called it ασφαραγος (aspharagos) or ασπαραγος (asparagos). The Classical Romans called it asparagus. This species has benefited from human intervention as it is found nearly worldwide, both in cultivation and as escapees from cultivation.

After our walk, we retired to the Trailhead Shelter and identified plants that Nels Holmberg had collected in many Missouri localities.

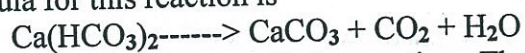
November 13, 2006 Botany Field Trip

Fourteen botanists met at the Klondike County Park boat ramp parking lot in St. Charles County. This location is also an access point for the Katy Trail, which was the destination for our walk. The forecast predicted rain but we were pleasantly surprised by cloudy and partly cloudy skies with no precipitation. On our walk, we explored Missouri River bottomland and St. Peter's sandstone bluffs. Most plants we identified were in fruit or senescent but we found three plants still flowering: *Campanula americana* (tall bellflower), *Symphytotrichum pilosum* (white heath aster), and *Lepidium virginicum* (common pepper grass).

We saw many saplings of *Ailanthus altissima* (tree of heaven), characterized by huge leaf scars, among the largest of any plant in Missouri. *Ailanthus altissima* is an Asian tree that was initially imported to the United States in 1784. Although a beautiful tree, growing up to 80 feet tall with compound leaves up to four feet long, it has become an ecological and agricultural pest. Tree-of-heaven grows rapidly and produces many seeds and can quickly form an impenetrable thicket which chokes out native vegetation. The plant produces toxins which help prevent the growth of other species near it. This species is dioecious, there are separate male and female trees. Tree-of-heaven is common in disturbed areas including urban areas and is found in 42 states. In the story "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" by Betty Smith, the tree was *Ailanthus altissima*.

Another species we encountered on our walk was *Euonymus atropurpureus* (wahoo), whose bright red fruits ringed by large pink coats, prompted a flurry of photography by many of the botanists. Father Sullivan taught us how to identify *Gymnocladus dioica* (Kentucky coffee tree) saplings; above the leaf scar are buds, each with a raised ring around them, somewhat reminiscent of a crater with a central cone. *Gymnocladus dioica* is, like *Ailanthus altissima*, a dioecious species.

Nels Holmberg showed us how some members of the moss family Pottiaceae form tufa. Tufa is a precipitate of calcium carbonate, forming a soft limestone. The tufa we saw was formed by moss plants removing carbon dioxide for photosynthesis from water containing dissolved calcium bicarbonate. The formula for this reaction is



Tufa eventually hardens and forms a type of stone called travertine. The Roman Coliseum is built of travertine. The tufa we saw was forming on a sandstone outcrop. Nels collected some of the tufa forming moss and gave it to Carl Darigo to identify. It turned out to be *Hymenostylium recurvirostrum* var. *latifolium*--a St. Charles County record.

November 20, 2006 Botany Field Trip

Eight botanists met on a chilly but beautiful, cloudless fall day at Lower Meramec County Park in St. Louis County. The park encompasses highly disturbed Meramec River bottomland. The area is rife with invasive exotics like *Lespedeza cuneata* (sericea lespedeza), *Lonicera japonica* (Japanese honeysuckle), *Lonicera mackii* (amur honeysuckle), *Carduus nutans* (musk thistle), *Glechoma hederacea* (ground ivy), *Taraxacum officinale* (common dandelion), and *Lamium purpureum* (deadnettle). Nevertheless, this is a very interesting botanical area as there are also many native Missouri plants. Many of these native plants were fruiting and the fruits were easily seen as the deciduous plants had mostly lost their leaves. *Smilax glauca* (glaucous greenbrier) and *Smilax hispida* (bristly greenbrier) had small black berries in an umbel. The umbel helped us to distinguish *Smilax* fruits from the same sized black fruits of *Menispermum canadense* (moon seed). In addition, the moonseed fruits could be identified by squashing the fruit and extracting the single seed, shaped like a little pie with one piece cut out. We also identified the coral colored fruits of *Symphoricarpos orbiculatus* (coral-berry), the red fruits of *Ilex decidua* (deciduous holly), the reddish-orange fruits of *Crataegus viridis* (green haw), and the edible, but out-of-reach fruits of *Celtis occidentalis* (hackberry), a member of the elm family. The persimmons (*Diospyros virginiana*) we found were also well out of reach.

Diospyros virginiana is a member of the ebony family. The trees are dioecious and flower in the late spring and early summer. The fruit is a berry about the size of a plum and is edible when ripe; the unripe fruit is green and turns orange to black when ripe. The unripe fruit is very astringent and mouth numbing. An astringent substance can cause tissues to contract, and can stop bleeding and secretion of saliva. Tannins in the unripe persimmon are responsible for the astringent effect by causing coagulation of proteins. Tannins denature salivary proteins resulting in a rough feeling in the mouth. The word persimmon comes from a native American language and means "a dry fruit", probably referring to the dry mouth caused by eating unripe fruit.

November 27, 2006 Botany Field Trip

WGNSS botanists met this morning at the Conference Center of Klondike County Park in St. Charles County. We drove from there to another parking lot at the Power Line Trail trailhead, where ten botanists enjoyed the mild weather as we walked the Power Line Trail and then the Strip Mine Loop Trail. The area was heavily disturbed, having been a quarry at one time. The Power Line Trail, parallel to the Katy Trail and about 100 feet above it, was a forest of *Ailanthus altissima* (tree-of-heaven), a good example of how this plant can become a pest. The forest floor was littered with tree-of-heaven samaras, their dry, winged fruits. We identified many plants from green winter leaves, dried summer stalks, and fruits. Notable plants included *Celastus scandens* (bittersweet) with its bright red fruits similar to the fruits of the wahoo (*Euonymus atropurpureus*), a member of the same family. We saw tiny fronds of *Cystopteris protrusa* (fragile fern) and fall leaves of *Viburnum rufidulum* (southern black haw). We opened capsules (the type of fruit) of *Campsis radicans* (trumpet creeper) and examined the many winged seeds inside.

We identified the glaucous stems of the wild black raspberry, *Rubus occidentalis*. Glaucous is a term which describes a blue-green, gray, or white bloom on the surface of stems, leaves, and fruits. The bloom is powdery and can be easily wiped off with a finger. The name comes from Classical Greek, γλαυκος, meaning blue-green or gray; this term referred to the same thing in ancient times that it refers to today. Not only did we see a glaucous coating on the black

raspberry stems, but also on the stems of *Quercus rubra* (red oak) and *Rhus glabra* (smooth sumac), and the fleshy, berry-like, bluish cones of *Juniperus virginiana* (eastern red cedar). The same powdery coating can be seen on commercially grown fruits such as plums, grapes, and blueberries. The glaucous coating, modern science has revealed, is part of the plant's cuticle. The cuticle is made of particles of cutin, an insoluble polymer, embedded in wax. This makes an impermeable layer that inhibits desiccation of the plant. The glaucous appearance is due to small crystals of wax which appear powdery to the naked eye. Each species' wax has its own chemical composition which determines the shape of the wax crystals. The way in which the light is reflected and scattered by these crystals determines whether they impart a glaucous appearance to the surface of the plant. Even though a plant may not appear glaucous, it still has these waxy crystals as part of its cuticle.

ANOTHER VOLUME OF NATURE NOTES BOUND

For the record a bound volume of *Nature Notes* containing Vols. 73-76 (2001-2004) and annual indexes for these years has been received from the University Bindery, 7917 Watson Road, St. Louis, MO 63119. It's bound in the same resplendent black buckram with gold backstrip lettering as prior volumes. The bindery keeps color and backstrip title/spacing information in a computer file so that future volumes will match earlier ones. This bindery has bound all prior volumes, and we salute them for continuing to do such a good job. The bindery removes staples and mailing seals before binding. For the first time a title page for the volume and annual indexes were provided for the Editor, and this same title page format will be used in the next volume bound. The newly bound volume will be delivered to the Missouri Botanical Garden Library, where a complete set of bound volumes (1929 to the present) is held for archival purposes. Former Historian Betty Nellums collected and arranged for the binding of earlier volumes in 2000. Remaining on the Editor's docket is the binding of an index volume for volumes prior to 2001, also for archival purposes. In the interim, however, these annual indexes are available for reference at the WGNSS website, www.WGNSS.org. - Editor

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

The Audubon Society of Missouri's Bluebird (Dec. 2006, Vol. 75, No. 4, p. 45) reports that Joe Eades, one of WGNSS's ace birders, found and documented a blackpoll warbler in October 2005 in Tower Grove Park. Considered accidental and hypothetical in the fall, there are a few credible pre-1988 sight records, but this is the first since 1988 and the first ever to be documented. Our congratulations to Joe.

THE EAGLE IS LANDING - Editor

According to this article in the *Wall Street Journal*, Dec. 26, 2006, p. A12, the Bush Administration says it plans to remove the American Bald Eagle from the endangered species list early in 2007. From its 1963 nadir of 417 nesting pairs, there are now thought to be 7,000. Once removed, the eagles will still be protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.

NEWS OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

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 the north lot. The general public invited to attend these **no-cost** lectures on topical issues in Science.

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.

March 21 – Navigating Clear Waters-- Providing Sustainable Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation Across the Globe – Speaker: Dr. Craig Adams, Professor of Environmental Engineering, University of Missouri-Rolla.

St. Louis Rainforest Advocates

Feb. 3 – Free talk, Sunday, Feb. 3, 7 PM in the Garden Room at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Mark Warner, head of the Reptile House at the Zoo, will talk on “Ozarks to the Andes: Amphibian Crisis”. For more information call WGNSS member Rachel Crandell, president, at (314) 878-8427.

Audubon Society of Missouri

The Society will hold its 2007 Spring Meeting April 27, 28, and 29. It will be headquartered in Salem, MO. Birding at Montauk Springs, Meramec Spring, Alley Spring, or Round Spring will be available. There will also be floating opportunities on the Current or Jack’s Fork.

BOOK SNAPSHOTS – Jim Ziebol

Why Ducks Do That, by Chuck Petrie, former executive director of Ducks Unlimited. An informative 96-page book with excellent photos.

The Lifecycles of Butterflies, by Judy Burris and Wayne Richards. 152 pages. This book contains excellent photographs of eggs, caterpillars, adult butterflies, little known host plants and favorite nectar plants of 23 common garden butterflies. Many of the photos were jpegs made from camcorder video.

Crows: Encounters with the Wise Guys of the Avian World, by Candace Savage. This book has excellent photos and illustrations of the world’s crow and raven species. Bernd Heinrich, author of two books on ravens, is quoted extensively. The New Caledonia Crow is the only species besides *Homo Sapiens* that makes and uses tools. One crow

reared in captivity and not exposed to any other crows, quickly fashioned a hook on the end of a stick, which it used to fetch an insect from a crevice.

Secret Life of Sharks, by Peter A. Kimley. 293 pages. Dr. Kimley is one of the first scientists to study sharks, including the Great White Shark, in their natural habitat. Humans kill 100 MILLION sharks a year for food, for their fins, and for sport. In a typical year, there are only 7 fatal shark attacks on people.

INTERESTING BOOKS – Clarence Zacher

- *Birding Babylon: A Soldier's Journal from Iraq* – Jonathan Trouern-Trend – Sierra Club Books – Account of birding around Camp Anaconda, a large base north of Baghdad.
- *Sky in a Bottle* – Peter Pesic – MIT Books – Explains why the sky is blue.

BOOKS I'VE ENJOYED – Jim Adams

- *The Indian History of the Modoc (Indian) War (in Northern California)* – Jefferson C. Davis Riddle – Stackpole Books – 1914
- *A World on Fire* – Joe Jackson – A biography of Joseph Priestly, the Discoverer of Oxygen - Viking - 2005
- *Wedgewood – The First Tycoon* – Brian Dolan – Viking – 2004 – A biography of Josiah Wedgewood, the world's most famous potter, friend of Joseph Priestly, and grandfather of Emma Wedgewood, who married Charles Darwin. His famous "green frog" pottery set, made for Russia's Catherine the Great, is now on display in the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, and contemporary Wedgewood tableware is used for state dinners in the Kremlin.
- *Rising Tide – The Great Mississippi Flood of 1927 and How it Changed America* – John M. Barry – Simon & Schuster – 1997 – An incomparable account of the Mississippi, Jonathan Eads and his bridge, of historical efforts to control the river, and how the Flood of 1927 propelled Herbert Hoover into the presidency..
- *Searching for Lost City – On the Trail of America's Native Languages* – The Lyons Press - 2003
- *Johannes Kepler and the New Astronomy* – James R. Voelkel – Oxford University Press - 1999

Webster Groves Nature Study Society – Founded 1920
GROUP ACTIVITY/WALK SCHEDULES
 February 2007 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.)			
Feb. 3	County Library	8 AM	Becher
Feb. 17	Riverlands Teal Pond	8 AM	Becher
March 3	County Library	8 AM	Becher
March 17	Riverlands Teal Pond	8 AM	Becher
March 24	County Library	8 AM	Becher
March 31	County Library	8 AM	Becher
April 7	County Library	8 AM	Becher
April 14	Busch Wildlife Area	8 AM	Becher
	Alden Knight Hampton Lake		
Exit from US 40 at first exit after crossing Missouri River (Rt. 94) and follow signs			
April 21	County Library	8 AM	Becher
April 28	Tower Grove Park	8 AM	Becher
	Gaddy Bird Garden Entrance		
May 5	Castlewood State Park	8 AM	Becher
	Near Boat Launch		
From Manchester Road, go south on New Ballwin Rd. to Kiefer Creek Road and follow signs east to park.			
May 12	WGSS BIRDING – BIG DAY		
May 19	Tower Grove Park	8 AM	Becher
	Gaddy Bird Garden Entrance		
May 26	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.

ORNITHOLOGU – SUNDAY BIRD WALKS

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

Feb. 4	Baldwin Lake	9 AM	K. Lannert
	Boat Launch Parking Lot		

Feb. 11	REDA (Riverlands) Visitor Center Parking Lot	8 AM	M. Thelen
March 11	Riverlands Visitor Center	8 AM	C. Alwood
March 18	Horse Lake Causeway	8 AM	F. Holmes & J. Ziebol
April 15	Castlewood S. P. Hdqtrs.	8 AM	S. McCowan & D. Rabenau
April 29	Tower Grove Park Gaddy Bird Garden	8 AM	D. Garcia & B. Bailey

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 41st yr. in January, 2007)**

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, February 25, 2007 at 7 PM – “Recent Efforts to Find Populations of the Endangered Hines Emerald Dragonfly in Missouri” will be presented by Jane Walker, first vice-president of WGNSS. **NEW LOCATION:** Conf. Rm. 142, Biology Dept., St. Louis U., in Macelwane Hall. Take Hwy. 40 east into city of St. Louis. Take northbound exit of Grand Ave. and drive one city major block to Laclede. Make a left at Laclede and find street parking or park in Laclede Parking Garage. Walk back across Grand, staying on Laclede. Macelwane Hall is the second bldg. on the left. Enter bldg. by main entrance (located on the Student Commons on the north side opposite Laclede). Follow the posted meeting signs to the conf. rm. A map and parking permit will be sent to those on the Entomology e-mail list. If you want to attend but don't receive this e-mail by the second week of Feb., contact Thoma (314-965-6744 or thomarkas4@sbcglobal.net).

Sunday, March 25, 2007 at 7 PM – “Of Lice and Men” will be presented by George Winkler, Sr. Louis Zoo emeritus entomologist and long time WGNSS member. This meeting will take place at George's home, 10 Covington Ln., Olivette, MO (314-993-1652)

(For general information about WGNSS, call Paul Brockland at (314) 961-4461.)

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

WGSS 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 (Interim)

Rich Thoma
329 Frieda Ln.
St. Louis, MO 63122
(314) 965-6744
thomarkas4@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 at time noted 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 months are below

NN Deadline	Mailing Party
Fri. 2/9	Tues. 2/20, 1-4 P
Fri. 3/9	Mon. 3/19, 1-4 P
Fri. 4/6	Mon. 4/16, 10-1 A/P
Fri. 5/11	Mon. 5/21, 10-1, A/P
Fri. 8/10	Mon. 8/20, 10-1, A/P
Fri. 9/7	Mon. 9/17, 10-1, A/P

Next Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 7, 2007 at 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

63119\$3023 0066



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

Feb. 2007 - 355

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