



# nature notes

Journal of Webster Groves Nature Study Society

December 1997 Vol. 69, No. 10

## **Open House with St. Louis Audubon at Tyson December 7**

Vicki Flier

Mark your calendar now for the open house with the St. Louis Audubon Society on December 7 at Tyson Research Center, 1:00–4:00. Take 44 west to Antire, then right. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to bring binoculars for some bird watching. Bring your favorite dish. Beverages provided. For more info., call Vicki Flier, 968-9166. ~

## **Pere Marquette Xmas Count**

Helen Wuestenfeld

The Pere Marquette Xmas Count will be held on Saturday, Dec. 20. Some areas will be preassigned. Others please meet at Marquette Lodge by 7:45 AM. For more info. please call Irene Mondhink, 618-885-5233 or me at 618-498-5335. \$5 fee. ~

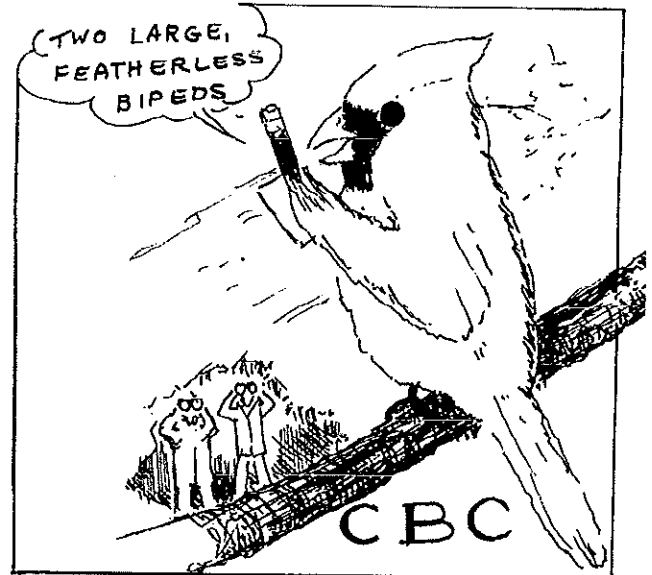
## **Busch Wildlife Area Count**

Sun., Dec. 21 is the date for the Busch Count. Meet in the parking lot of headquarters at 8:00 AM. Be prepared for the weather and bring lunch. \$5 fee. Call Tom Parmeter: 921-6017. ~

## **Orchard Farm Xmas Count**

Randy Korotev

The Orchard Farm Xmas Count will be Saturday, January 3, 1997. I will be out of town much of the Christmas season, but expect to be back by Jan. 1. Call 935-5637 and leave a message. There is a \$5 participation fee. ~



## **in this issue:**

Botany luncheon Dec. 11	p. 2
"Birding in Columbia," S. Marshall	p. 2
"Oct. Birding," Rose Ann Bodman	p. 4
"Peabody Bird," E. Comfort	p. 5
Gull workshop	p. 7
WGNS events	p. 9

## **Annual Botany Luncheon: December 11 1997**

Jack Harris

Join friends and colleagues in remembering the past year's excursions afield. On Thursday, Dec. 11, our annual Botany Group Luncheon will be held 11:30 AM – 2:00 PM at Pietro's Restaurant, 3801 Watson Road, St. Louis City 63109; 314-645-9263. Choice of (1) 6 oz. filet of sole, in lemon butter; (2) Chicken ala Pietro, 6 oz, in white wine with fresh mushroom sauce; (3) roast sirloin of beef with mushroom gravy. All entrees include salad, pasta, vegetable, bread & butter, beverage and spumoni ice cream. \$11 per person—includes meals, tax, tip & contribution. Members and friends are welcome.

Reservations are requested not later than 12/9. Mail to Jack Harris, 9708 Green Park Rd. St. Louis MO 63123; or call: 894-9021 or e-mail: jahar@stlnet.com ~

### **Year List**

If you wish to be included in the list of birders who saw 200 species in the St. Louis area in 1997, please send your totals to Rose Ann Bodman, 1931 St. Clair Ave., St. Louis, MO 63144, by Jan. 5, 1998. ~

### **Bird of the Year**

What bird made the biggest impression on your year? Send your nomination to: Anne McCormack, 587 Andrews, St. Louis MO 63122, or call 965-8091. ~

### **Welcome to new members...**

Dr. Robert Schaeffer.....St. Louis Hills  
Margy Terpstra .....Kirkwood  
Dorcas Sunderman ..... St. Peters, MO  
Babler State Park..... Wildwood, MO  
Tina Weyman .....Kirkwood

## **Colombia—It Can Be Done!**

Scott Marshall

For years I have drooled over the *Guide to the Birds of Colombia* with its 69 plates of bizarre and beautiful birds. To me Colombia was the Shangri-La of bird watching: an enchanting land where commercial tours feared to tread. So when St. Louis' Mike Flieg publicized a trip to this forbidden destination, I jumped at the chance.

The trip was billed as an effort to see 1,000 species in a single country in a single month. For the convenience of people like me who could not be away from the office for an entire month, the trip was split into two parts. I joined the group for only the first 17-days. We started in the capitol, Bogota, and went east into the *llanos* grasslands. The Andes Mountains separate into three chains in Colombia, and we proceeded to bird watch on both slopes of each chain at many different elevations. We visited farms, rivers, national parks and many roads. I finished in extreme southwestern Colombia near the border with Ecuador. On the second part of the trip my friends flew to the Caribbean coast, the eastern border with Venezuela and finally to Leticia in the Amazonian southeast.

Although the trip was to be spear-headed by Paul Salaman, a British Ph.D. candidate who has studied in the country and discovered the Choco Vireo, I was braced for a grueling forced-march which would not be very much fun. To my pleasant surprise, the group was very cooperative and a lot of fun. Extraordinary efforts were made to get everybody to see the choice birds. We had walkie-talkies available to alert friends who had wandered too far afield. These same radios also came in handy when the vehicles got separated in tropical traffic which defies description.

I managed to see an incredible variety of over 350 species during my visit. At least

140 of these were lifers for me. Colombia has more than 70 endemic species; I managed to see ten, including Multicolored Tanager, Chestnut Wood-quail, Tolima Dove and Five-colored Barbet. We had a Black-and-chestnut Eagle fly right over us while standing on a peak in the western Andes. I had a Tawny Antpitta hopping nearly at my feet at the Laguna del Otun Paramo (4,100m elevation). We discovered a Great Potoo while trying to glimpse a Chestnut-eared Aracari. A Whistling Heron actually whistled to us in the *llanos*. A pair of Scarlet-fronted Parakeets posed for me on an exposed perch. Early one morning I heard loud honking and thought a European ambulance was coming through the tree-tops. To my delight, a family of Toucan Barbets was having a feeding frenzy. I was treated to Scarlet-and-white Tanagers which stood out like Christmas tree ornaments in the lowland forests of the Pacific coast. White-capped Tanagers emerged from the mist of the cloud forest. The golden mask of the Lita Woodpecker seemed to wrap all the way around its head. Hummingbirds were everywhere.

“Camp Gringo” was quite an adventure. Colombia is a large country and, by Latin American standards, very prosperous. The people of Colombia were very friendly and helpful. I speak enough Spanish to start conversations but not enough to finish them! The locals were willing for me to practice being bilingual and seemed to appreciate my effort. We ate mostly chicken, beans and rice, plus soup and bread and juice. A typical meal on the road included dogs, cats and chickens at my feet but not on my plate. Showers were invariably cold, but in the tropics I don’t mind. We stayed in many little hotels that were quite clean and safe. A typical day started at 4 A.M.; by dawn we were in the jungle, forest or mud. Sometimes we were still on the road at 10 P.M. The highways are generally

good. However, some of our travels took us on dirt and gravel roads which were not too good. There was a military band playing when we got to the airport in Pasto, but it was not celebrating our arrival. The president of the country was about to arrive.

We were lucky enough to have local drivers who seemed unfazed while passing on blind curves at night or with trucks coming the other way. It was not unusual to see entire families on little motor scooters. I saw a young woman buzzing down a mountain road on a motor cycle with her dog in her lap. Miraculously, I saw no accidents while in Colombia. We were blessed with the company of Liliana, a Colombian graduate student who helped the group decipher menus and negotiate hotel accommodations. Imagine the reaction you would get if you walked into a hotel in the US. and announced you had twelve Colombian friends who needed a place to sleep!

I went to Colombia expecting to find friendly people and lots of birds. That is exactly what I found. I did not see any guerrillas or cocaine laboratories. I saw lots of farmers trying to make an honest living. We were patted-down at a few military check-points, but the stops were not intrusive. The airport in Bogota was one of the nicest and most efficient I’ve ever been through. If I ever get another chance, I would love to bird Colombia again. I would be happy to share my notes and itinerary with anyone who wants a little tropical adventure. Colombia can be done!

Some WGNSS members may remember Scott Marshall’s article in *Bird Watcher’s Digest*, Nov./Dec. 1993. ed. ∞

### **Tyson Nature Line**

Call 935-8432 for a summary of the latest bird sightings in the St. Louis area. Please report any unusual birds to Jack Van Benthuisen, 961-3390, or leave a message on the “Nature Line.” ∞

## October Birding In St. Louis Area

Rose Ann Bodman

A pair of Black-throated Blue Warblers visited the Gaddy Bird Garden at Tower Grove Park (TGP) on Oct. 1 and were observed by Jim Ziebol. The next day only the female remained but there were 10 other warbler species seen at the park during the week. There were sightings of Wood Thrush, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Winter Wren, Red-breasted Nuthatch and White-throated Sparrows, a mixture of departing as well as arriving migrants.

On Oct. 2, three Western Sandpipers, a Little Blue Heron and Snowy Egret were at Eagle Park. Marsh Wrens have appeared at Riverlands and Carlyle Lake. Sabine's Gulls were seen from Deer Run, Carlyle Lake beginning on the 4th. Sharp-tailed Sparrows and American Pipits as well as good numbers of shorebirds were at the North impoundment. Clay-colored, Lincoln's and White-crowned Sparrows were reported from Riverlands.

An estimated 300 Franklin's Gulls, first seen at the end of September, at Swan Lake, Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuge (MTNWR) had grown to more than 500 by Oct. 12. Helen Wuestenfeld keep track of these unusually large flocks for our area. On the 11th Helen had a Black-bellied Plover among the shorebirds at the Volcano Point. She found a White-fronted Goose among the Canadas at Bim's Place farther up river. On the 12th, Frank Holmes had 2 very late Least Terns at Horseshoe Lake. Shorebirds were still appearing at Carlyle Lake with 12 species reported on the 14th. There were 50 Dunlin and 2 Avocets among the migrants. Dan Kassabaum and Dave Bohlen observed 1 Eurasian Collared Dove perched on a wire at the east side of the Governor's Run Golf Course, near Carlyle Lake.

Several birders found at least 2 LeConte's Sparrows on the east side of Heron Pond, Riverlands, on Saturday the 18th. A Barred Owl and a Merlin flushed out of the near by grove of trees. Oct. 18-19 hundreds of White Pelicans stopped at Horseshoe Lake.

A Common Loon was sighted at Carlyle Lake on the 21st. Two Trumpeter Swan were seen by the Thurs. birders at Riverlands on the 23rd. Both appeared to be adults, but only one was banded.

The Saturday field trip, led by Dave Becher, had Bonaparte's Gulls, at least 7 Horned Grebes and 2 Common Loons at Horseshoe on the 25th. The next day, Charlene and Jim Malone counted 11 Common Loons and 3 late Forster's Terns at Riverlands.

An immature Harris Sparrow, first seen on Oct. 25 near the entrance to Eldon Hazlet State Park, Carlyle Lake, was found again by Kent Lannert on the 28th.

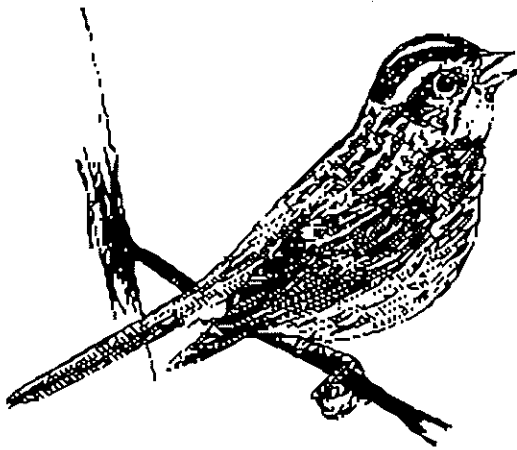
Pine Siskins are showing up at feeders and were seen on Oct. 30 at Elsah.

A Pacific Loon was discovered by Kent Lannert at Riverlands on the 30th. The Thursday birders saw the loon and later checked out a dark-backed gull thought to be a Lesser Black-backed. They had Hermit Thrushes at TGP earlier in the day. ∞

## Sigma Xi Seminars

Sigma Xi Science Seminars are co-sponsored by the St. Louis Zoo and the Academy of Science, on Wed. evenings, 7:30-9 PM, at the Living World, on the north side of the zoo. Free parking is available in the zoo's north lot. All events are free. For further information, call 768-5466 or 533-8083.

Nov. 19: Belize's Baboon Sanctuary:  
Howler Monkeys & Conservation, Laura Marsh, Anthropology  
Washington U. ∞



## **The White-throated Sparrow or Peabody Bird**

J. Earl Comfort

The extremely popular White-throated Sparrow is one of 18 kinds of native sparrows on the St. Louis checklist of birds that inhabit the Bourbon area. Some are quite common, others rather rare. They are permanent residents, migrant birds, summer residents or winter visitors. White-throated Sparrows are wintering birds in Missouri.

Like grapes or bananas, they come in bunches in the fall, to become one of our most common species. All of our sparrows are dressed alike as to sexes, which doesn't apply to several kinds of birds which make up the big finch family. Examples are the gaudy male Rose-breasted Grosbeak with the plain sparrow-like mate and the deep blue Indigo Bunting with the brown spouse. To confuse the birding issue, the male buntings molt into the plumage of their mates each fall until they again take on mating colors for the next nesting season. The non-native House Sparrows and the Eurasian Tree Sparrows of St. Louis are properly weaver finches, not sparrows. House Sparrow males are better dressed than their mates, but the Eurasian Tree Sparrow show both sexes colored alike. These discrepancies present an identification problem among our many kinds of birds.

Dedicated birders accept this challenge, which makes birding more exciting and more interesting.

While the White-throated is not a big bird compared to the average member of the finch tribe, it is a big fellow compared to its tiny 4-inch sparrow cousins. The Whitethroat is one of our four biggest of the 18 kinds. The others are the Harris's Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, and the Fox Sparrow—the Harris' being the largest with a 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inch measurement.

Being a seed eater during the winter, our bird will readily visit your feeder if it contains grain. But its natural habitats are fence rows, weed-grown ditches, hedge rows, roadsides and fields which furnish it a bill of fare of seeds. All of the finches are in the big perching birds class.

It is sometimes called the Peabody bird because some of its observers fancied its song notes were "Old Man Peabody, Peabody, Peabody." I have never been able to translate its phrases into those words—but the imagination along those lines has never been a gift of mine. Others are able to easily interpret bird songs to suit their fancy. I'm satisfied when I'm able to identify the birds.

Whitethroats are usually quite friendly and will often "show off" by posing atop a weed or on a low limb of a tree. They also feed on the ground where weed seeds have accumulated.

On our bird walks in the proper season in the St. Louis area, we seldom fail to list this species; which may reach fantastic numbers on our Christmas bird counts or spring bird census, conducted for the State of Missouri. The Christmas counts are conducted for the National Audubon Society.

Look for Whitethroats from late September into May, when they call it quits to join their relatives for nesting chores considerably north of us. If it is an adult bird, the prominent white throat is its tell-

tale trade mark. Late in the spring they may desert the underbrush to perch high in the trees where they feed on insects, especially those found on tree buds.

While bird walking we may find several kinds of sparrows as well as American Goldfinches, Purple Finches, juncos, siskins and towhees accompanying the Whitethroats. All are seed-eating members of the finch group. Yes, birds of a feather *do* flock together.

The adult Whitethroat is brown above, dingy white below with dark stripes down the back and shoulders. There are two white wing bars and stripes on the head, alternating dark and white. There is a prominent yellow spot between the eye and the bill that sets this species off for identification purposes. This 6 3/4 inch bird shows a long, notched tail. As you would expect, the throat is pure white. The dull-colored immatures lack many of these identification marks of their parents and are heavily streaked below, where the adults are clear-breasted. Because they do not nest in the Bourbon region, there is no point in describing the nest and eggs.

During the breeding season these sparrows are highly beneficial through their destruction of countless harmful insects, especially when there are hungry young mouths to be stuffed with the food that will satisfy the youngsters and see them through the stage from hatching to launching into the world where they will be on their own. Unfortunately, the nest-fed birds may be contaminated with harmful insecticides from the insects. The weed seed consumption is another asset.

This article & drawing by Marjorie Richardson, first appeared in the *Bourbon Beacon*, Nov. 18, 1976. By the way, I first learned the Whitethroat's song in Ontario as "Sweet sweet Canada, Canada, Canada." ed. ∞

## **Workshop On Gulls: February 6-8, 1998**

Bill Rowe

Members of WGNSS are invited to participate in a workshop on gull identification over the weekend of February 6-8, co-sponsored by the Audubon Society of Missouri and the Missouri Bird Records Committee. This will be more or less like other recent workshops sponsored by ASM; lodgings, meals, and presentations will be centered at a Ramada Inn in Alton, Illinois, ten minutes from Riverlands. A good turnout of ASM members from other parts of Missouri is expected.

The Ramada Inn is holding a block of rooms for all members who wish to stay there, at a flat rate of \$48.00 per night, and one meal (Saturday dinner) will be catered there and included in the registration fee. Identification lectures will be Saturday evening after dinner, while the field trips, led by local St. Louis birders in tandem with Missouri Bird Records Committee members, will occupy the daylight hours both Saturday (all day) and Sunday morning. Here is a schedule outline:

**Fri. Feb. 6:** Participants who are staying at Ramada arrive and register

### **Sat. Feb. 7**

early AM: Motel guests are on their own to have breakfast nearby  
8:00 registration for other participants  
8:30 Field trips depart, groups of 8-12 people, car pooling  
lunchtime Time out from trips to visit fast-food "joints" and get warm  
5:45 PM: Buffet dinner at Ramada  
7:00: Presentations begin

### **Sun. Feb. 8:**

early AM: Breakfast like Sat.  
8:30: field trips depart again—some groups may leave earlier  
continue until lunch, or later, depending on individuals

Like other recent workshops, this one will be aimed primarily at members who

would like to learn the basics or who would like an in-depth review. The Saturday evening presentations, illustrated with field guide plates and photographs from VIREO, will include a general outline of gull plumages, an overview of the common species, a detailed study of some rarer species that are more or less "expectable" in the midwest (e.g., Thayer's, Iceland, Glaucous, the black-backed gulls, etc.), and at least some discussion of a few very rare ones (e.g., Mew, Glaucous-winged). There may be an opportunity to view video footage of gulls. The organizers are also hoping to end the evening with a photo quiz for participants!

Field trips will focus on gulls, but with two disclaimers: (1) the numbers and variety of gulls to be seen in early February can vary greatly, and there are no guarantees that any particular rare species will be present that weekend; (2) the weather is unpredictable too and can make observation difficult. WGNSS members undoubtedly realize that no matter how nice the weather predictions may be, *participants should wear their warmest clothing*. The areas to be visited are mostly open and unprotected, and even on a relatively mild day it can feel quite cold if there is a wind. Remember that Riverlands itself, and other areas that might be included in the field trips, offer a good variety of birds besides gulls, including lots of Bald Eagles and other raptors, waterfowl, sparrows, and so forth. So the field trips should be enjoyable and productive no matter what the gull situation is.

To register, please complete the form printed here in *Nature Notes* and return it with the \$30.00 registration fee to:

Jean Graebner, Treasurer  
1800 S. Roby Farm Rd.  
Rocheport, MO 65279

If you need a room, you should then call the Ramada Inn at 618-463-0800, identify yourself as a member of WGNSS or a par-

ticipant in the birding workshop, and reserve your space. Everyone who signs up will be sent a map with directions for getting to the Ramada and getting around the area. If you have any questions that are not answered by this announcement, please call Bill Rowe at 314-962-0544 (evenings and weekends) or e-mail him at wr@tjs.org

**PS:** We have no idea how many people may be interested in this workshop, but it will be difficult to accommodate more than about 70. So sign up promptly!

**Registration for February 6-8 Gull Identification Workshop**

Send form and payment by 5 January 1998:

**Jean Graebner**  
**1800 S. Roby Farm Rd.**  
**Rocheport, MO 65279**

Make checks payable to Audubon Society of Missouri.

\* Please note: registration fee includes Saturday and Sunday field trips, Saturday night dinner, and Saturday night presentations (i.e., classroom instruction at the Ramada Inn in Alton, Illinois). Please see the article above in this issue for further details regarding hotel arrangements if you need them. ~

<b>Registration: 2/6-8 Gull Workshop</b>	
Name	_____
Address	_____
	_____
	_____
Phone(____)	
Number in Party:	_____
Registration Fee: \$30.00*	__ x= _____
Total Amount Enclosed: \$	_____



## Need directions?

### Busch Wildlife Area

- Take 40 west toward St. Charles Co., left on 94, right on D, follow signs
- Hampton Lake—usual meeting spot—is the first beyond headquarters

### Kirkwood Library, Board meeting

- The board usually meets on the first Wed. of the month, at 7:00 PM.
- 140 E. Jefferson, corner of Taylor & Jefferson.
- Take Lindbergh (Kirkwood Rd.), turn east on Jefferson—one block north of train station.

### Riverlands

- Riverlands Environmental Demonstration Area, West Alton, MO, St. Charles Co.
- from north St. Louis county, take 270 north
- exit on Rt. 367 north
- just before bridge to Alton IL, turn right toward Fisca gas station.
- turn right on first gravel road for usual meeting spot, Teal Pond.

### Tower Grove Park

- Take 44 to Kingshighway south, east (left) on Magnolia, 1st right into park.
- In park, 1st right (west), past tennis courts & stable to 1st picnic area on right (Gus Foyt Site).

### Tyson Research Center

- 44 west to Antire Rd., then right.
- Sign in at the gate.

### West Co. Shopping Center

- Located at 270 & Manchester.
- Meet at the south (lower) parking lot, near Penney's, at lamp post #1. ∞

### 1997-8 WGNSS Board

President: Sue Gustafson, 9007 N. Swan Circle, St. Louis MO 63144, 968-8128.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pres: Doug Corbett, 702 C Overlook Cir. Dr., Manchester MO 63021, 861-2829.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres: Vicki Flier, 18 Algonquin Wood, St. Louis MO 63122, 968-9166

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Ornithology: David Becher, 12829 Mariners Pt Ct., St. Louis MO 63141, 576-1146.

Ornithology: Kevin Renick PO Box 31785, St. Louis MO 63131, 918-1085.

Botany: Jack Harris, 9708 Green Park Rd., St. Louis MO 63123, 894-9021.

Entomology: Marshall Magner, 516 Bacon Ave, Webster Groves MO 63119, 961-4588.

Environmental Education: Dick Coles, 11 Hickory Ln., Eureka MO 63025, 938-5271.

Member at Large: Ginnie Young, 1306 S. Geyer, St. Louis MO 63122, 822-9006.

Member at Large: Tom O'Gorman, 465 N. Geyer, St. Louis MO 63122, 821-8079.

Member at Large: Jim Ziebol, 3900 Berger Ave., St. Louis MO 63109 781-7372. ∞

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**The deadline for the Jan. issue of  
*Nature Notes* is Dec. 5.**







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ociety

## Meetings

### Wednesday Dec. 3:

7:00-8:30 PM Board meeting, Kirkwood Public Library. All members welcome.

### Sunday Dec. 8 Open House: 🍷

Open House with St. Louis Audubon at Tyson, 1:00-4:00. Take 44 west to Antire, then right. Bring a favorite dish and binoculars. Beverages provided. For more info., call Vicki Flier 968-9166.

## Botany

Beginners are welcome. Bring lunch, drink, insect repellent & weather gear.

### Thurs. Nov. 20, Dec. 4, 18, Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29:

Field trips usually meet at 9:30 AM; trip is normally 3-5 hr. plus travel time. Led by Fr. James Sullivan. Call Catherine Filla, 481-5298, after 5 PM Wed. for location. No trip on 11/27 or 12/25.

### Thursday December 11:

Botany Group's annual luncheon from 11:30-1:30 at Pietro's Restaurant on Watson Rd., \$11. All are welcome. Bring a friend! Mail reservation by 12/9 to Jack Harris, 9708 Green Park Rd. St. Louis MO 63123; 894-9021.

### Wednesday January 14:

7:30 PM Powder Valley. Dr. Larry Morrison, Pres. MO Native Plant Soc. will focus on wildflowers in SW Colorado.

## join wgnss!

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

## Birding

Open to all. Bring binoculars, lunch. For more information, call David Becher 576-1146.

### Thurs. Nov. 20, Dec. 4, 11, 18, Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29:

8:30 AM meet at West County shopping center, south lower lot behind Penney's, lamp post #1. We don't meet on 11/27.

### Saturday Nov. 22:

7:30 AM Riverlands, Teal Pond lot.

### Saturday Nov. 22:

8:00 AM WGNSS/Audubon trip to Riverlands; Teal Pond parking lot.

### Saturday Dec. 6:

8:00 AM Riverlands, Teal Pond.

### Saturday Dec. 13:

8:00 AM Tower Grove, west of stables, picnic area on right. Bring lunch.

### Saturday Dec. 20:

Pere Marquette Xmas Count! Fee \$5. Call Helen Wuestenfeld, 618-498-5335 or Irene Monhink, 618-885-5233.

### Sunday Dec. 21:

Busch Xmas Count! Meet at HQ at 8:00 AM. Bring lunch. Call Tom Parmeter 921-6017. Fee \$5.


### Saturday Jan. 3:

Orchard Farm Xmas Count! Call Randy Korotev, 935-5637, and leave message. Fee \$5.

## Deadline

Deadline for submissions to Jan. "Nature Notes Events" is Dec. 5.

**All events are free, except where noted. Bring a friend!**

 Webster Groves  
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St. Louis MO 63119

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# Webster Groves Nature Study Society

WGNSS: PO Box 190065, St. Louis MO 63119  
President: Sue Gustafson, 9007 N. Swan Circle, St. Louis MO 63144  
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Editor: Anne McCormack, 587 Andrews, St. Louis MO 63122  
Membership: Linda Virga, 9734 Antonia Dr., St. Louis MO 63123

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.

*established in 1920*