



nature notes

Journal of Webster Groves Nature Study Society

April 2002 Vol. 74, No. 4

Meeting April 12

Doug Corbett

We are meeting at the library. The April speaker will be announced at the meeting, since the information is unavailable as we go to print.

The general meeting of WGNSS will be on Friday, April 12, at the St. Louis County Library on Lindbergh, just south of Clayton. ~

International Migratory Bird Week May 5-12

Webster Groves Nature Study Society, St. Louis Audubon, the St. Louis Zoo, the Green Center, WildBirds Unlimited, and Wild Bird Marketplace are sponsoring a number of events to try to raise public awareness of spring bird migration. See page 6 in this issue for details. ~

Welcome to these new members!

Connie Cooper.....62002
Christine Estes.....63128

Progress and Challenges in the Kennedy Woods

Ken Cohen

In 1999 WGNSS, and many of its members, played a vital role in the establishment of the Kennedy Woods Savanna through monetary contributions and hours of volunteer work collecting, processing and planting seeds of native forbs and grasses. That commitment is showing substantial results. The original five acres planted along Skinker between the woods and the golf course now produce a showy display of flowers and grasses from spring until fall. Indigo Buntings nested

Continued on page 3

in this issue:

Banquet reservation.....	2
February Birds.....	4
Conservation Report.....	5
Bird Week.....	6
Events.....	11

WGNSS Spring Banquet











*Spring Banquet
May 9
Hawken House Barn
in Webster Groves*

The "Barn" at the Webster Groves Historical Society's Hawken House is the setting for our 82nd Annual Spring Banquet, Thursday, May 9 at 6 PM. Dr. Robert Criss, hydrologist and professor at Washington University, will present a program contrasting the free-flowing, beautiful Meramec River with the commercial, engineered Mississippi River. The corps of Engineers has resumed its navigational study on the Upper Mississippi River "to improve the effectiveness of the navigation system in a manner that will achieve environmental sustainability for the navigation system and the resources it impacts," Project Guidance Memorandum of the Corps of Engineers, Aug., 2001. Dr. Criss will have an interesting and lively slide program on rivers, their management and sustainability.

Anne McCormack has ordered a wider selection of butterfly and hummingbird plants to offer to banquet-goers. Bowood Farms will supply 20 different varieties that attract butterflies and hummers, including, Pipevine—host plant of Pipevine Swallowtail Butterfly— Butterfly Bush and Purple Coneflower, Cardinal Flower, Columbine, Pineapple Sage, and a limited number of the much sought-after Mexican Sage.

Social hour and plant selection will begin at 5:45 PM with buffet service at 6:45. We'll look forward to renewing friendships, good food, and an entertaining slide program. The Barn is located at 1155 South Rock Hill Rd., Webster Groves, Mo.

-  Reservations by May 1
 -  Make checks payable to WGNSS
 -  Cost: \$20 per person
 -  Your check will confirm your reservation.
 -  Tear off the slip on this page & send with your name & address to:
 -  Pat McCormick
1338 Eaglebrooke Ct.
Ballwin, MO 63021
-

Saint Louis Area Composite Sighting List for 2001—Update

Paul Johnson

The Missouri Bird Record Committee has accepted the record of the Ruff in St. Charles County. The following information should be added to the 2001 Composite List: Ruff found on Hayford Road, St. Charles County on Aug. 23 by Charlene Malone.

With this change, the Saint Louis Area Composite Sighting List for 2001 total is increased to 295. ~

Kennedy Woods cont. from p. 1

here last year for the first time in many moons; butterflies and insects are returning in increasing numbers and species; and the St. Louis Herpetological Society is planning to bring turtles, snakes and their relatives back to this area of Forest Park. You can view pictures of the savanna at www.WGNSS.org under Projects, and at treeswallow.com where you will find links to the savanna restoration project.

An additional two acres was planted early in 2001 and was kept mowed for most of last year to allow sunlight to reach the emerging native sprouts. This area runs from the original site towards Valley Drive. This Summer, we plan to begin preparing the field behind the Art Museum for planting in late Winter of 2003. When completed, the savanna will form a continuous crescent of more than ten acres, providing a transition zone of native plants (all gathered from this region) between the woods and the rest of the park. And the designers of the golf course are now working on final plans to extend native grasses and forbs into the course itself.

A very exciting piece of news is that Valley Drive may be removed from the heart of the Kennedy Woods as early as this Fall. The ground where the road will have been removed will need to be seeded with native woodland species. In addition, two wetlands or shallow ponds are in the works along the path of the current roadway. Three additional wetland restorations are also designated for other parts of the woods. The Kennedy Woods Advisory Group (KWAG), which includes a number WGNSS members, is actively involved in all of these projects. The City Parks Department has asked us to provide input for, and help with, the restoration of the woods after

the road is removed. We had previously been told that the removal of Valley Drive was not imminent; the new timetable means we have to react quickly to keep up with the construction schedule.

The City has told us that if we want to see our habitat restoration projects completed soon, we will need to help with fund raising. This is consistent with how the Forest Park Master Plan is being financed. One half of the money needed for the Master Plan's Phase I, to be completed in 2004, is being contributed by individuals, companies and foundations. The other half is coming from the city and other governmental agencies. The City of St. Louis' total financial contribution towards the implementation of the Master Plan is committed through 2004. This means that we will have to wait for over two years to find out if the City will fund these Valley Road habitat projects. And even if the City is able commit additional funds to the Master Plan after 2004, these items may not be the City's highest priorities.

While a donor has been found for the removal of the road, not all of the Valley Road projects, including the design and construction of the ponds, the installation of native vegetation around them and along the roadway, are fully funded. Neither are the other three wetlands in the woods. Funds that we raise will insure that the environmental goals we are interested in will be completed. At the same time, contributions will allow us to expand and maintain the savanna project. Your support will be gratefully received and every penny of it used to improve habitat in the Kennedy Woods and on the savanna. Your contributions should be sent to: Forest Park Forever, 5595 Grand Drive, St. Louis, MO 63112; please clearly indicate that it is for the Kennedy Woods account. Thank you for your past and future support and KWAG invites you to be frequent visitor to the Kennedy Woods. ~

Bird of the Year

Pat Brock Diener

- The Webster Mississippi Kite which has hidden from me. This year he flew to Warson Woods. I pulled over for good views.
- Anne McCormack's Rufous Hummingbird. I loved the garden more than the bird!
- The flock of birds which gather very Thurs. morning and fly out to find "target birds." A good flock! ~

February 2002 Bird Report

Jim Ziebol & Yvonne Homeyer

The authors would like to sincerely thank Terri Brandt of Shaw Nature Reserve for the generous donation of wetland plants at the Jack Van Memorial Pool in Tower Grove Park. We also would like to thank Jeannie Moe, volunteer at Shaw, for helping with this process. Tower Grove Park would also like to plant more native plants around the pond. If anyone has plants they would like to donate, take them to the Park Office or the Park Horticulturist.

BCA = Busch Wildlife Area

CL = Carlyle Lake

FP = Forest Park

HL = Horseshoe Lake

LVT = Lost Valley Trail

MTC = Marais Temps Clair

REDA = Riverlands Environmental Demonstration Area

TGP = Tower Grove Park

Sightings: Twenty White-fronted Geese were reported from HL on 2/13 (TB) and 107 were seen on 2/17 at Baldwin Lake, plus 3 Ross's Geese and a Rough-legged Hawk (IH). On 2/2, Mark Peters estimated 1400 migrating Snow Geese along with a few Bald Eagles in Jefferson Co. Ten thousand Snow Geese were estimated at CL on 2/3 (P&BJ) and many thousands were observed on 2/24 at Swan Lake, MTNWR (CA). Dorcas Warner reported a Ross's Goose at a neighborhood pond in O'Fallon, Mo. on 2/2. Two Wood Ducks and 2 Hooded Mergansers were seen near the former Collinsville Road Golf Course on 2/16 (SM). An estimated 5-6,000 Mallards and 150 Pintails were at Hayford Road, St. Charles Co., on 2/6 (DR). The Johnsons found Red-breasted Merganser at CL on 2/3 and Mike Thelen reported 4 Red-breasted Mergansers at REDA and 100 Ruddies at HL on 2/16. On 2/24, Frank Holmes reported 2 Black Ducks, 29 Buffleheads and Bonaparte's Gulls at HL and 135 Pintails at Eagle Park. The first Woodcock report was from Jefferson County on 2/1 (MP) and by 2/3, they were displaying at BCA (MB). Bonaparte's Gull sightings included 6 at HL on 2/24 (SM) with more seen on 2/28 (G&TB). By 2/16, only 10 Bald Eagles remained at REDA (MT). Turkey Vultures were reported in good numbers throughout Feb. On 2/27, 6 N. Harriers were observed at REDA and 1 was being

shadowed by a Peregrine Falcon (DR). Mark Peters reported 2 Cooper's Hawks and a Sharp-shinned during his drive home on 2/12. By 2/17, the nesting pair of Cooper's Hawks in TGP were first seen by the Barkers. A Sharp-shinned was reported from Gilbert Lake, MTNWR, on 2/2 (T Bo, KL). Rose Ann Bodman found a Red-tailed Hawk and many Robins in TGP on 2/3. A Krider's Red-tailed Hawk was a good find on Hwy. 111, HL, on 2/26 (T Be). A Harlan's Hawk was seen near Alton Dam 2/12 (FH). The Malones reported 4 Red-shouldered Hawks, E. Phoebe, and 4 Purple Finch at BCA on 2/9. On 2/24, 2 Red-shouldered Hawks were seen along with 2 Wood Ducks at LVT (RAB). John Uffman found a light-phase Rough-legged Hawk on Power Rd, St. Charles Co., on 2/1. Johnsons reported a Peregrine Falcon from Little Creve Coeur on 2/6, along with 4 Bobwhite. On 2/23, 3 Pheasants were seen on Bend Rd, HL (RAB).

Ian Hunt reported a Short-eared Owl at Little Creve Coeur on 2/2 and 3 Screech Owls and 2 Barred Owls from Creve Coeur Park on 2/3. Two Great Horned Owls were observed on Orton Road on 1/31 (JL). On 2/2, Tom Bormann found 3 Barred Owls at BCA and 3 at MTNWR. Three Barred Owls and a Screech Owl were found at LVT and 4 Barred Owls and several Woodcocks were at Lake 34, BCA, on 2/17 (MB). Red-headed Woodpecker was seen at MTNWR on 2/2, along with Hairy and Pileated (T Bo). Red-headed was also seen at Shaw Nature Reserve on 2/24 (P&BJ). Sapsuckers were reported from her home in St. Charles County on 2/10 (J Mo) and by 2/18, several were observed in TGP, along with Red-breasted Nuthatch (SM). E. Phoebes were observed in FP on 2/23 (MAA) and at Powder Valley on 2/24 (TO). House Wren was a very good find on 2/3 at his home (JU). A Winter Wren, along with several Fish Crows, were found at Castlewood SP on 2/23 (MB). Two Bluebirds were seen by the Thursday Group at the Cypress Circle, TGP, on 2/22 and one was also seen at the campground, HL, on 2/15 (FH). A Hermit Thrush was seen near his home on 2/16 (MP). On 2/15, Paul Bauer found a Brown Thrasher at Spanish Lake Park. Two Loggerhead Shrikes appear to be regulars near Breese, Ill. (P&BJ). By 2/3, several Swamp and Fox Sparrows were seen at Orton Road (CA). Harris's Sparrow continues to be re-



'CA). Harris's Sparrow continues to be reported in good numbers, with one seen along with Winter Wren at Creve Coeur Pk on 2/3 (IH) and 2-3 seen at Weldon Springs C.A. from 2/3 to 2/16 (MAA, MT, G&TB). A Western Meadowlark was found there on 2/12 (P&BJ). Rusty Blackbirds were observed at Church & Dwyer Rd, St. Charles County, on 2/17 (P&BJ).

A typical day in and around HL was reported by Torrey Berger on 2/4: 4 Great Blue Herons, 26 Canada Geese, 50 Mallards, 12 Pintails, 30 Shovelers, 8 Gadwall, 7 Canvasbacks, 50 Ring-necked Ducks, 120 Lesser Scaup, 30 Common Goldeneye, 12 Bufflehead, 6 Hooded Mergansers, 23 Common Mergansers, 75 Ruddy Ducks, 11 Red-tailed Hawks, 6 Kestrels, 3 Ring-necked Pheasant, 1 Bobwhite, 25 Coots, 9 Kildeer, 1,000+ Ring-billed Gulls, 50 Herring Gulls, 7 Horned Larks, 6 American Tree Sparrows, 8 Savannahs, 4 Song Sparrows, 6 White-throated, 4 White-crowned, 4 E. Meadowlarks, and 1 Fish Crow heard.

Comments: Jack Harris had a Pine Siskin come to his feeder a few times in January and February. Ian Hunt found 5 races of Canada Goose at Creve Coeur Lake: Todd's, nominate, common, giant, Richardson's. Linda Yust found 2 Wood Ducks at a pond in Ladue. A Brewer's Duck (Mallard x Gadwall hybrid) was photographed at Alton Barge by Jane Zatta on 2/3. Dancy Zahn and Josh Uffman had Screech Owls at their homes. A Cooper's Hawk was seen perched on his pool fence in Town and Country on 2/16 (T Be).

Contributors: Connie Alwood, Mary Anne Auer, George & Terry Barker, Paul Bauer, Torrey Berger, David Becher, Rose Ann Bodman, Tom Bormann, Mike Brady, Frank Holmes, Ian Hunt, Paul & Barbara Johnson, Dan Kassebaum, Kent Lannert, John Loomis, Randy Korotev, Jim & Charlene Malone, Sherry McCowan, Jeannie Moe, Tom O'Gorman, Mark Peters, Dave Rogles, John & Nancy Solodar, Mike Thelen, Kathy Thiele, Josh Uffman, many observers. An asterisk means "documented."

Please note this temporary change: To submit a report, call Jim Ziebol at 314-963-7750 or email Yvonne at homeyer@earthlink.net by the last day of the month, until further notice. Thank you for your cooperation. ~

Conservation Report April 2002

Yvonne Homeyer

Holcim (Holnam): Thanks to all who sent in letters to the Land Reclamation division of the Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) about Holcim's application to begin open-pit limestone mining on 1,600 acres. The Land Reclamation Commission will take up this matter at its May 23 meeting. We will have carpools for WGNSS members who want to be there. On the Clean Water Commission front, our appeal challenging DNR's issuance of a 401 certification to Holcim was argued by Ryan Furniss of the Environmental Law Clinic at the CWC's meeting in Jefferson City on Feb. 13. The Hearing Officer hired by the CWC has recommended that the 401 certification should be thrown out, which is what we had requested. The CWC tabled the matter until its March 19 meeting. By the time you get this newsletter, the CWC may have decided our appeal. Still pending is a decision by the Corps of Engineers on Holcim's request for a 404 permit and whether the Corps will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

Chip Mills: State Rep. Joan Bray (University City) has introduced H.B. 2040 to give the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) authority to regulate any new chip mills wanting to come into Missouri. This is important legislation, because the Clean Water Commission's moratorium on new chip mills expires in April and we do not know at this point whether the CWC will extend the moratorium or not. Already, thousands of acres in the Ozarks have been clear-cut, leaving denuded land with no wildlife and no vegetation. Much of that clear-cutting is being driven by the presence of 2 chip mills in Missouri and others in nearby states. Whether you live in Rep. Bray's district or not, please thank her for introducing this legislation: jbray@services.state.mo.us; 201 West Capitol Avenue, Room 412A, Jefferson City, MO 65101; (573) 751-2514. Also, please contact your state representative and urge him/her to support H.B. 2040. The Ozarks are home to 25% of the world's breeding Whip-poor-wills, 17% of Kentucky Warblers, 15% of Summer Tanagers, 14% of Worm-eating Warblers, 13% of Chuck-wills-widows, 9% of Yellow-billed Cuckoos, 9% of E. Wood Pewees

and many other Neotropical migrants. (Breeding Bird Survey data). The biodiversity of the Ozarks includes not only birds but also native plants, amphibians, reptiles, mammals, insects, other invertebrates, and aquatic resources, in addition to some of Missouri's most scenic rivers and streams. We cannot afford to lose the Ozarks a second time or watch the Eleven Point, Jack's Fork and other waterways turn brown with soil and sedimentation washing down from clear-cut areas. ~

Volunteers Needed: Obtain Data on Lighted Buildings & Bird Fatalities

Sue Gustafson

We'd like to continue the momentum begun several years ago when a group of WGNSS Conservation Committee members—led by Yvonne Homeyer and Ken Cohen—joined forces with volunteers from St. Louis Audubon to search the bases of downtown high-rise buildings during spring migration to look for evidence of bird fatalities. As you are probably aware, lighted buildings pose a risk to night-flying migratory birds, particularly on nights of low cloud cover. Birds that use the stars for navigation will fly towards other lights when the stars are obscured by clouds, and impact into lighted buildings and towers can be fatal to birds. This is a common problem in cities with tall buildings located on major migratory pathways. Cities such as Toronto, New York City, and Chicago are working with building owners in a "lights out" program during peak migration periods. In order to discuss this problem with building owners in St. Louis, we'd like to continue to compile data on the situation in St. Louis. We're in need of people to volunteer their time for one or two (or more if possible!) mornings in the first two weeks of May around 5:30 AM to assist in this data-gathering endeavor. Lynne Breakstone will be coordinating the dates and logistics with participants. Please call Lynne at 314-726-4772 to volunteer. ~

Next Deadline: April 5

Submissions—handwritten, typed, IBM or Mac to: Anne McCormack, 587 Andrews, St. Louis MO 63122-5722 or mccormacka@earthlink.net

International Migratory Bird Week Celebration May 5–12, 2002

The following is a list of the special events for the St. Louis area during International Migratory Bird Week. Some of the programs require reservations. All programs are free. Bring binoculars to bird walks, wear comfortable walking shoes, and dress for spring weather. Walks are geared at all experience levels. Beginning birders are especially encouraged to attend.

A Spring Birding Festival

Powder Valley Nature Center, Sat., April 20
2–3:30 PM

Sponsored by MO Dept. of Conservation and St. Louis Audubon Society (SLAS)
Spring has arrived and more migrant songbirds are pouring in each day. The stunning beauty of these tiny migrants can be breathtaking and has made birdwatching one of the fastest growing outdoor activities in America. Share a superb video providing extreme close-up views and sounds of many beautiful birds. Numerous tips and suggestions are provided in the video defining how to start to identify birds. The best nearby locations to find these birds will be discussed. Upcoming bird walks will be announced.

Sunday, May 5

7:30 AM Birding in Tower Grove Park WGNSS & SLAS

Tower Grove Park is known as one of the best migrant "traps" in the area and offers views of numerous species of warblers. Meet at the Gaddy Bird Garden at the northwest corner of the park. Call Jim Malone at 636-536-1119 for more info. All ages and beginners welcome.

Thursday, May 9

8:30 AM Bird Walk at the Green Center
The bird walk will explore the Green Center's gardens, prairie, wetland, and Ruth Park Woods. Meet in front of the Green Center's home in University City's Kaufman Park, 8025 Blackberry Ave. 63130. Park in front of tennis courts. To register or for more information contact the Green Center by mail at the above address, by e-mail at info@thegreencenter.org, or call Dianne Benjamin, Program Director, 314-725-8314. Ages 10 and older recommended.

Friday, May 10

8:30 AM Bird Walk at Tyson Research Center
Come explore the meadows and oak-hickory woodlands of Washington University's Tyson Research Center's hilly karst-dominated landscape in southwest St. Louis County. A series of springs and constructed ponds provide aquatic habitats. Meet at the gatehouse entrance located at the northwest corner of the Beaumont-Antire exit off of I-44. For more information, contact Dave Larson, Field Station Manager, at 314-935-8433.

Saturday, May 11

Migratory Bird Discovery Day at the Zoo's Living World

Sponsored by SLAS, St. Louis Zoo, and Wild Bird Rehabilitation 11 AM - 3 PM

Do you want to know more about wild birds, birding, and bird awareness? Activities and demonstrations feature bird identification, birds' adaptation to their habitats, best locations to see birds, feeding and housing for wild birds, proper care for injured and orphaned wild birds, a chance to meet live birds from the zoo, and bird activities for kids. No reservations required; stop by anytime. For more details, call Vicki Flier at 314-968-9166.

Saturday, May 11

7:30 AM Bird Walk at Tower Grove Park sponsored by Wild Bird Marketplace
Meet at Wild Bird Marketplace at 477 Lafayette Center (Manchester & Baxter Roads) to caravan to Tower Grove Park. If you missed the walk on May 5, come see what migrants are currently arriving in this prime migrant habitat. For more information contact the store at 636-394-2239.

Sunday, May 12

8:00 AM Kennedy Woods WGNSS & SLAS
Kennedy Woods in Forest Park is one of the best places in the area to observe warblers and other spring migrants. Trails provided by the MO Dept. of Conservation make this area more accessible to groups. Help provided for beginners. Contact Jim Malone at 636-636-1119 for more information. All ages welcome. ☺

Land at Orton Road for Sale- Audubon seeks pledges

John Solodar

If you have birded Riverlands at all, you are probably aware that the lighting conditions at Heron Pond are often very difficult when the sun is in the sky from the south. You are also aware that the other end of Heron Pond looks very inviting at these times, but going down Orton Road to get there can be full of adventure. One is faced with traversing a public road which is privately maintained. Further, the land on the right side of the road is privately owned and you have the knowledge that the owner's son has been much less than welcoming to birders at times, even when birders attempt to stay on Army Corps land on the left side of the road.

All this may soon change. St. Louis Audubon Society (SLAS) has been approached about buying the land on the right side at the end of Orton Rd. Ownership of this land might give us the opportunity to establish a bird observation blind on the top of the mound that occupies a good portion of the land. Further, it would prevent the land from falling into the hands of a shooting club or homebuilder whose activities would disrupt the refuge and waterfowl resting aspects of Heron Pond. It would certainly give us unimpeded access to the area. Some members of the SLAS Board of Directors have initiated discussions with the Army Corps and MDC about participating with us in acquiring this parcel of land. The Corps initially turned down buying the land on its own, but may be willing to get involved if we can show strong local interest.

As farmland goes, the owner's price, \$11,250 for about one acre, is very high. However, he envisions the land as a home site because the mound was the site of a trailer home before the current owner bought it. If the land went for the normal agricultural price of \$2,000 - \$3,000 per acre we might still have to spend a few thousand dollars to put an observation mound in place.

The SLAS board has indicated an interest in acquiring this land, but not if SLAS has to put up all the money itself. Thus, we are asking birders who are willing to help us to indicate



this fact by pledging money which would be used to purchase the land. If you can help, please inform John Solodar of how much you would be willing to contribute. You can contact John by phone (314-862-5294), e-mail (solodar1@mindspring.com) or regular mail: 8135 Cornell Ct. St. Louis, MO 63130. ~

Ozark Ecology Field Course

A 9-day, 8-night course titled Field Experience in Ozark Ecology (BIO:149) will be offered from May 18 through May 26 at St. Louis Community College at Meramec. Ozark upland and bottomland forest, glade, savanna, shut-in, cave, spring and streams will be visited. Two days of canoeing are among the highlights of the course—one on the Current in Missouri and the other on the Buffalo in Arkansas. The cost is \$310, which includes 2 credit hours of tuition, lodging, transportation, canoe rental and half of the meals. Preference will be given to people who have taken ecology, botany or zoology courses or those who have an outdoor background. For more information, call Dave Tylka, at 314/984-7712. ~

ASM's Spring Meeting in Columbia

The Audubon Society of Missouri will hold the spring field trips and meetings in Columbia on April 26-28. Visit www.mobirds.org or call Paul Bauer to get registration information. ~

2001-02 Science Seminar Series

Co-sponsored by the Saint Louis Zoo and the Academy of Science of St. Louis
All seminars will be held in the Living World, north side of Saint Louis Zoo, free parking in north lot, Wed. evenings, 7:30-9 PM, no fee. For further information, call 314-768-5466 or 533-8083.

April 17, "Medical Criminal Entomology," by Dr. Robert Hall, UM-Columbia. ~

Spotting scope

60 mm Bausch & Lomb spotting scope. Excellent condition. 2 yr. old. Comes with a 20x wide-angle lens, a 20-45x zoom lens and a view-through green nylon Cordura case. \$200. Please contact Debbie Littmann 454-0780 ~

International Biodiversity Event

WGNSS is looking for volunteers to lead walks at the Shaw Nature Reserve (Arboretum) on May 18 and 19. We need leaders for 3 walks: botany, entomology, and birds. Call Doug Corbett, 636-861-2829. ~

A Gardening Experience

Dennis Bozzay
The Jim Ziebol Butterfly Garden at Busch Conservation Area needs your help for a new season. We begin at 8:00 AM, April 16, May 26, & Aug. 18. Call Dennis Bozzay, 314-968-2714. ~

Entomology Group

Do you know the owner of a 3x3x10 cardboard box of specimens, given to Ted McRae for identification? All specimens are numbered. Contact Marshal Magner 314-961-4588. ~

Deadlines for *Nature Notes*'02

Marjorie Richardson
Mailing parties send out mail *Nature Notes* from 10 AM till noon at Oak Bend County Library. Your help is welcome!

Dates for NN in 2002

mailing party	deadline
April 15	April 5
May 20	May 10
Aug. 19	Aug. 9
Sept. 16	Sept. 6
Oct. 21	Oct. 11
Nov. 18	Nov. 8
Dec. 16	Dec. 6

University City Memorial Day Run

University City Memorial Day Run, May 27. The 10K and 5K race benefits in part the Green Center. Please contact Jane Schaefer, (314) 721-4647 for registration info, or register on-line at <http://www.fleetfeetsports.com>. ~

Tyson Nature Line

Call 314-935-8432 for a summary of the latest bird sightings in the St. Louis area. Please report any unusual birds to Connie Alwood, 314-524-8111. ~

The Green Center

June Jeffries

The Green Center, founded in 1997, is a natural oasis in the heart of the St. Louis region. Our mission is to "...provide a natural laboratory and cultural gathering place, where people of our community with their diverse backgrounds and experiences can come together to appreciate and understand each other and their relationship to the natural world. We explore the link between nature and culture in a whole and healthy society."

The Center is headquartered in a 1932 residence in Kaufman Park in University City. The heart of the Center is its outdoor spaces which include demonstration gardens; a half-acre prairie; a wetland; the 26-acre Ruth Park Woods; and an Arboretum in Heman Park.

Visitors can wander the Green Center spaces on their own. Or they can take classes which are offered throughout the year, taught by volunteer teachers on a variety of subjects. Visit www.thegreencenter.org

Drifts

Susanne Knowles

(For M. M. B. G.)

You in your element in the high air,
Screaming now in companies round
Cupola, minaret,
The fountain-headed palm
With a curve and flip faster than sight:
Do you forget
How you fed and mated on the wing,
Snatched the wind's debris for your nests,
Above us who in the dusk's calm
Loved you, in the city or by the weir?
We, who for three season of the sky
Take comfort from the lark's
Lost flutter over the corn,
The glide and drift of gulls, hawk's hover
And wheeling flap of plover,
Long for your return;
Long for your piercing flight,
You, to whom speed is god and ecstasy.

Webster Groves Nature Study Society

The objectives of the society are: To stimulate interest in nature study on the part of adults and children to cooperate with other organizations in nature study to encourage amateur research in the natural sciences to promote conservation of wildlife and natural beauty. Open to all with an interest in nature. ~

© 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 list credit to *Nature Notes*, Webster Groves Nature Study Society. Contact the editor. ~



☞ **Key to WGNSS Calendar**

birding field trip

each Thurs: call Dottie Herweg 314-966-2274
most Sat. (not June or July): call David Becher
314-576-1146

summary of the latest bird sightings

Call Tyson Nature Line: 314-935-8432

board meeting

1st Wed. 7 PM Sept.-May at Powder Valley
Nature Center: Doug Corbett 636-861-2829

botany field trip

each Thurs: call Fr. Sullivan 314-291-7885

conservation meeting

3rd Wed: call Yvonne Homeyer 314-963-7750

entomology meeting

last Sun: call Marshall Magner 314-961-4588

general meeting

2nd Fri. 7:30 PM: call Doug Corbett 636-861-2829

mailing party for Nature Notes

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

spring banquet

May 9 at Hawken House in Webster: call Pat
McCormick 636-825-2842

Nature Notes deadlines

10 days prior to 3rd Mon: call Anne
McCormack 314-965-8091
mccormacka@earthlink.net

Big Day birding competition

Sat. May 11, 2002 (2nd Sat.)

membership expires/renewal due
Aug. 31

2001-2002 WGNSS Board

President: Doug Corbett

702 C Overlook Cir. Dr.
Manchester MO 63021
636-861-2829
corbettstl@prodigy.net

2nd Vice Pres: Pat McCormick

1338 Eaglebrooke Ct.
Ballwin MO 63021
636-825-2842

Treasurer: Randy Korotev

800 Oakbrook Ln.
St. Louis MO 63132
314-993-0055
rlk@levee.wustl.edu

Editor: Anne McCormack

587 Andrews
St. Louis MO 63122-5722
314-965-8091
mccormacka@earthlink.net

Membership: Dr. Dianne Benjamin

733 LePere Ave. Apt. A
St. Louis MO 63132-4439
314-997-2419

MaryKBenjamin@webtv.net

Ornithology: David Becher

12829 Mariner's Pt Ct.
St. Louis MO 63141
314-576-1146

Botany: Fr. James Sullivan

1607 Ville Maura Lane
Hazelwood MO 63042-1054
314-291-7885

Entomology: Marshall Magner

516 Bacon Ave
Webster Groves MO 63119
314-961-4588

Interim Env. Ed Chair: Mike Flieg

6803 Nashville
St. Louis MO 63139
314-645-3356
gmflieg@aol.com

Conservation: Yvonne Homeyer

1508 Oriole Ln.
St. Louis MO 63144
314-963-7750
homeyer@earthlink.net

Member at Large: Tom Parmeter

2270 Love Ln.
Florissant MO 63031
314-921-6017

Member at Large: Mark Peters

5435 Lions Den Spur
Imperial, MO 63052
636-296-9159

www.wgnss.org



Webster Groves  Nature Society
Society

MEETINGS

Wednesday April 3

7 PM Board meeting at Powder Valley Nature Center. All members are welcome.

Friday April 12

7:30 PM at St. Louis Co. Library HQ on Lindbergh in Frontenac: Topic will be announced.

BOTANY

Thursdays March-May

Field trips usually meet 9:30 AM. Beginners welcome. Bring lunch, weather gear. Trip is usually 3-5 hr. plus travel time. Call Fr. Sullivan 291-7885 after 1 PM Wed for location. E-mail message is sent every Wed. advising when and where the field trip is scheduled. To receive it, send your e-mail address to Jack Harris jahar@mac.com

ENTOMOLOGY

Sunday March 24

7 PM at Magners', 516 Bacon Ave., 314-961-4588. Bruce Schuette, naturalist at Cuivre River State Pk, will present a program of butterflies of the park.

Sunday April 28

7 PM at Magners'. Bill Brandhorst presents several short, historical films: "Ants Have Jobs!", "A Cost Rican Butterfly Farm," & "WGNSS Insect-Collecting Contest."

JOIN WGNSS

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

NATURE NOTES DEADLINE
APRIL 5

BIRDING

Thursdays March-April

8:30 AM at Des Peres Park on Ballas, one block n. of Manchester. Questions: call Dottie Herweg, 314-966-2274.

Sat. March 23 & 30, April 6

8 AM WGNSS "Where the Birds Are." Parking lot of HQ of Co. Library, Lindbergh, south of 40. Meet on N side. New meeting place because of construction at Olive and I-270. D. Becher 314-576-1146

Saturday April 13 & 27

8 AM WGNSS Birding: Tower Grove Park. Meet just west of stables. Bring lunch. For more info, call David Becher, above.

Saturday April 20

8 AM WGNSS Birding: Busch Wildlife Area, St. Charles Co. Meet at Hampton Lk. Bring lunch. For more info, call David B, above.

Saturday May 4

8 AM WGNSS Birding Castlewood State Park. Meet near boat launch. From Manchester Rd., go south on New Ballwin to Kiefer Creek Rd, follow signs east to Park. Bring lunch (David B. above)


Saturday May 11

Big Day

Saturday May 18

8 AM WGNSS Birding Shaw Nature Reserve (Arboretum). From St. Louis, take I-44 west to Gray Summit exit. Turn left across highway. Turn right onto service road and immediately left into arboretum. Meet at entrance to Brush Creek Trail. Bring a lunch to carry. (D. Becher 576-1146)

WWW.WGNSS.ORG

 Webster Groves
Nature Study Society
PO Box 190065
St. Louis MO 63119

Non-profit Org.
US Postage Paid
St. Louis MO
Permit #690

address service requested

exp: 31-08-2002 [0/R]
Yvonne Homeyer
1508 Oriole Ln
Saint Louis MO 63144-1138

63144+1138 13



WEBSTER GROVES NATURE STUDY SOCIETY

membership application

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ e-mail _____ fax (____) _____

Membership categories (circle one):
Individual or Family:\$15
for 1st class mail.....add \$5
Student.....\$5
Life\$300
(lump sum or equal payments over 5 yr.)

Please mail this form with check to:
Treasurer: Randy Korotev, 800 Oak-
brook Ln., St. Louis MO 63132
Please make check payable to: Webster
Groves Nature Study Society