

nature notes

Journal of Webster Groves Nature Study Society

June 2002 Vol. 74, No. 6

Since Shep was a pup...

When birders cover more territory than Spider Man, you know it's Big Day. In a sort of demolition derby, we try to record as many species as possible in a single day. Then, in a sort of demolition derby of the digital kind, I try to bring you the action in the biggest Nature Notes issue of the year—all in the same week.

One-hundred and thirty-six species of birds have been recorded by at least one team every year since 1998. We recorded all but 5 of these. Those absent are: Belted Kingfisher, Alder Flycatcher, Grasshopper Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, and Swamp Sparrow. Compared to Big Day 2001, we missed 24 species—including the above 5. Two we missed have been seen 6 of the last 7 years—N. Pintail and Lesser Scaup.

That brings up a point, now doesn't it. Where were the ducks? High water may have pushed them south because we recorded only 8 species of ducks this year—the worst showing since 1993. I don't have to remind anyone about the water that year, do I? Compare that to 16 ducks in '96 and 15 in '95.

Water troubles contributed to the low count of shorebird species: only 10 this year—and I'm counting Killdeer and Am. Woodcock out of desperation. Back in the day, 'long about '97, a single team—Jack Van Benthuyzen, Bill Rowe, Connie Alwood, and Kent Lannert—had 20 shorebirds! Dearie, Doctor! We have the lowest

Anne McCormack
composite total since Shep was a pup, and he's an old dog now.

Lest we fall into a funk, let us consider the warblers. This year, this difficult, rainy, windy, high-water, St. Crispian's day, gave us a record-breaking 35 species—all the expectable warblers! The banner year of '96 had only 32. Reports include not only Big Day birders, but those who birded in Forest Park, and Randy Korotev, who had Blackburnian and Golden-winged Warblers at his home. Margy Terpstra reported 50 species on her yard list that day!

Six species were added this year that we all missed on Big Day '01:

- N. Shoveler
- Mississippi Kite
- Solitary Sandpiper
- Franklin's Gull
- Hairy Woodpecker
- Hooded Warbler

and a seventh on the following Monday:

- Canada Warbler (continued on page 2)

in this issue:

| | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Viola Buckholtz | 3 |
| Winter Botanizing..... | 4 |
| Bird Report..... | 8 |
| Conservation | 11 |
| Big Day composite list..... | 15 |
| Events..... | 19 |

An additional 6 haven't been listed since '99:

- Broad-winged Hawk
- Greater Yellowlegs
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet
- Orange-crowned Warbler
- Cape May Warbler
- Pine Warbler

The trouble with keeping records is that it gets harder and harder to come up with something new, but we did it! Last year we added 4 species never seen before on *any* Big Day, but you didn't expect us to keep that up, did you? Even with the difficulties, the Malones added Loggerhead Shrike, not recorded on Big Day since 1992! We added *one species never seen before on any Big Day* since I began my database 11 years ago: Connecticut Warbler.

Disclaimer: I consider myself a reporter, not a compiler. I have made no attempt to collect documentation as we would for a Christmas count. Big Day is just big fun! The combined list for all groups is on page 15. Thank you to David Becher, Paul Bauer, Rose Ann Bodman, Jackie Chain, Joe Eades, Paul Johnson, Yvonne Homeyer, Charlene and Jim Malone, Randy Korotev, Kevin Renick, and Margy Terpstra for their help in compiling this list. ~~~

The Nighthawks.....138

Kevin Renick
Joe Eades
Anne McCormack

B Group.....134

Loy Barber
David Becher
Mike Brady

California Gulls.....123

Rose Ann Bodman
Jackie Chain
Jean Cook
Eugenia Larson

NAMC St. Charles.....114

Paul Bauer
Rad Widmer
Dave Rougles
Paul and Barb Johnson

Composite total '02.....170

| | |
|----------|-----|
| '01..... | 179 |
| '00..... | 185 |
| '99..... | 190 |
| '98..... | 177 |
| '97..... | 195 |
| '96..... | 195 |
| '95..... | 188 |
| '94..... | 179 |
| '93..... | 164 |
| '90..... | 193 |
| '86..... | 180 |

Time to Renew your Membership

Dianne Benjamin

Would you join WGNSS all over again? We hope so! At \$20 per year (\$10 for students) WGNSS is still a bargain after all these years.

As promised during our highly successful year-end fund raising appeal, the WGNSS board recently increased annual dues to cover expenses for the foreseeable future. We thank the 105 members who generously gave \$4,350. As a result, WGNSS continues to publish quality *Nature Notes* and to provide science education scholarships to worthy area students and teachers. At the same time we continue to find ways to keep costs down.

Please fill out the membership dues envelope included in this issue of *Nature Notes*. Enclose a personal check and mail soon. This is the only membership dues notice you will receive. Most memberships expire 8/31/02 (see your mailing label). Please mail your dues payment now, while you are thinking about it. You won't want to miss *Nature Notes* when it wings its way to you in Aug.

Take note of a few housekeeping details. Consider adding \$8 for first class postage, especially if you are moving and want *Nature Notes* forwarded, or if you know that you will be out-of-town and will have mail held at the PO—increase reflects higher postal rates. Check the box if you do not want your phone number listed in the WGNSS directory. WGNSS will not publish any e-mail address, however please include it for our convenience with membership questions.

Some of you are in the midst of paying a life membership on an installment basis. If you have paid at least one installment of \$60, then you may obtain life membership by continuing to pay at least \$60 per year until \$300 is reached. New life memberships are no longer being accepted.

If you misplace the pre-addressed envelope included in this volume, then mail your payment to:

Randy Korotev
WGNSS Treasurer
800 Oakbrook Ln.
Saint Louis, MO 63132-4807

Thanks for supporting WGNSS through your membership, your extra contributions, and in so many other ways. Now go forth and enjoy nature! ~

Gardening Coordinator Needed

Yvonne Homeyer

WGNSS has three gardening projects underway. Our first was started by Kraig Paradise 4 years ago at the North County Recreation Center, co-sponsored with St. Louis County Parks. Next was the Jim Ziebol Butterfly Garden at Busch Wildlife, co-sponsored with Mo. Dept. of Conservation and North American Butterfly Association. Our latest project is the Jack Van Benthuyzen Memorial Pond in Tower Grove Park. If you like native plant gardening, we are looking for a volunteer to oversee and coordinate WGNSS's part in these three projects. Please call Yvonne Homeyer (314-963-7750) if you are interested. Thank you! ~

Molyneaux and Buchholtz Memorials

Thanks to the following members for contributions to WGNSS in memory of the John Molyneaux and Viola Buchholtz:

Yvonne Balsiger
Martha & Bob Gaddy
Dottie and John Herweg
Anne McCormack

Memories of Viola Buchholtz

John Loomis

In the early '80s I started to bird—away from my backyard. I knew all those birds and wanted to see some I had been reading about in *Nature Notes*, which I had been given as a Christmas present from my one WGNSS friend, Helen Bauman. All those great-sounding places: Bend Road, Eagle Park, "the burned-down house," Alton dam, Busch Wildlife, Creve Coeur, St. Charles Airport, and Marais Temps Clair.

I met Vi one Sunday afternoon at the Mueller Road lagoon. She introduced me to Doc Laffey. They showed me about 20 Buff-breasted Sandpipers around the ball park. I was hooked! Vi suggested we could go birding the next day, Monday, since she was retired and I had Mondays off. We went to Busch and had a great time.

The next week she wanted me to meet her at Alton Dam. That was like the other end of the world for me—I live in House Springs. But I made it and we had some good shorebirds. We continued our Monday field trips for some time. One New Year's day, we met and drove to St. Charles Airport. About a foot of snow covered the ground. Our target bird was the Short-eared Owl—a life bird for me. We had heard they hung around the entrance to McDonnell's near the airport. We tramped through the snow for a long time before we flushed the first one. I was ecstatic and Vi was so delighted to have shown me my first one. We were still stomping through the snow as it began to get dark. We were tired and cold but we had flushed 3 or 4 and were a little high. Suddenly we were found by Skip Russel and we walked to the chain link fence to McDonnell's and there sat 3 more owls on the gate. We called it a day.

After some of our forays, Vi would call me at home to discuss a point or two. Sometimes she would call again as another thought occurred to her. I was so grateful to her for all I was learning. Later on, I made sure to send her birthday and Christmas

cards and always expressed my gratitude for the wonderful outings we had shared.

Last week I attended her memorial service and met her adored niece, Nancy. Jim and Connie were there—we had all shared similar experience with Vi.

Birding was a big part of Vi's life and I believe it extended her life. I'm sure she is still birding wherever she is. ~

Winter Botanizing

Carl Darigo

The Botany Group's Thursday outings continued throughout the winter season, with the following attending one or more times, Father James Sullivan, Dave Alspaugh, Linda Barteau, Diane Benjamin, Marvin Boisseau, Marlene & Thane Bopp, Nancy & Wayne Clark, Carl Darigo, Dorothy & Ed Emery, Walt Frerck, Pat & Jack Harris, Nels Holmberg, Del Johnson & grandson Sean, Donna & Bob Kirschenmann, Barbara Lawton, Marian & Harold Meyer, Jeannie Moe, Tom O'Gorman, Ken Parker, Ray Poninski, Marge & Jim Ruschill, Suzie & Dick Russell, Al Seppi, and Kathy Thiele.

December 6, Babler State Park, St. Louis County—12 persons, including Dorothy & Ed Emery (long time WGNSS members, but first outing with Botany Group), started the winter season on a 60° fall-like day, walking on the Guy Park asphalt trail and nearby park road. Continuing warm weather tricked several plants into blooming, notably brown-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia triloba*), the aroma of whose heads strongly resembles turpentine, and common violet (*Viola sororia*). Father Sullivan pointed out so many spice bush (*Lindera benzoin*), that a case could be made for a name change to Spice Bush Trail. Besides counting 51 *Aplectrum hyemale* (Adam & Eve orchid) leaves, Pat Harris successfully answered a single-leaf spring beauty (*Claytonia virginica*) test. Diane Benjamin spotted an orchid fruiting stalk, but Nels Holmberg found a giant stalk with at least six large pods; Nels also scored on a "leaves-only" *Lobelia inflata* (Indian tobacco) test. Keen-eyed Jack Harris came up with several *Botrychium*

dissectum (cut leaf grape fern) plants, at least one with a fruiting spike; this species' autumn color blends effectively with ground cover making the plants difficult to see.

While checking a wahoo (*Euonymus atropurpureus*) sapling with unusual red instead of green twigs, a white substance was seen on the bark. Microscopic examination showed the material to be insect frass, with numerous live scale insects wintering below the exterior bark sections.

December 13, Lower Meramec Park, St. Louis County—the weather was 45° and cloudy, as eight people toured the asphalt trail plus several side excursions into the Meramec River bottomland. Previous rains had left much standing water, but Nels Holmberg with his rubber boots managed to come up with three interesting sedges, *Dulichium arundinaceum* (three-way sedge) with obviously three-ranked leaves, *Juncus acuminatus* (knotty leaf rush), and *Carex frankii* (Frank's sedge), still maintaining large fruiting spikes. Two flowering plants managed to brave the on-coming winter, *Lepidium virginicum* (poor man's pepper grass) and *Capsella bursa-pastoris* (shepherd's purse). Some fruiting plants included *Ludwigia alternifolia* (bushy seedbox), with aptly-named squarish pods, *Cephalanthus occidentalis* (buttonbush) having typical spherical heads, *Penstemon digitalis* (smooth beard-tongue) and round, yellow fruits of *Solanum carolinense* (horse nettle). A short side tour along a deer path leading through a thicket of bare poison ivy shrubs (*Toxicodendron radicans*), would have been impossible to navigate in summer. Dorothy Emery and Jack Harris found a lavender blewit (*Clitocybe nuda*) and Jack later discovered a branch covered with wood ear (*Auricularia auricula*); both fungi are edible, but the latter's slimy nature is unappetizing. However, Father Sullivan spotted the day's best oddity, a 17 feet tall field thistle (*Cirsium discolor*), confirmed by Wayne Clark's tape measure.

December 20, Route 66 State Park, St. Louis County—a sunny, 45° day made for pleasant walking, as eight persons traveled

the new trail through a wooded area along the park's border, south of I-44. Winter took care of any flowering plants, but plenty of elephant's foot (*Elephantopus carolinianus*), whose fruit has many upward-pointing bracts, was seen, as well as a grove of Kentucky coffee trees (*Gymnocladus dioica*) sporting the characteristic big seed pods. Jack Harris found a male American holly (*Ilex opaca*) tree with shiny, green leaves and no fruit, pointing out that a female tree would have many bright red drupes. Jack also spotted the season's first tiny frost flower, on the lower stem of *Pycnanthemum tenuifolium* (slender mountain mint); this species is not well known for frost flowers. Father Sullivan once again confused the group with a sapling test, using sycamore (*Plantanus occidentalis*), the key characteristic being a large leaf scar almost encircling the bud. Father Sullivan also discovered a live, smaller milkweed bug (*Lygaeus kalmii*) on one of many common milkweed plants (*Asclepias syriaca*), while Jeannie Moe and Kathy Thiele did a good job of scattering the fluffy "parachute" seeds over the countryside. Five species were added to the park's plant list during the trip.

December 27, St. Francois State Park, St. Francois County—nine people, including new attendees Del Johnson and grandson Sean, took advantage of another nice winter day (sunny and 40°) to tour portions of the Big River picnic area, Missouri Trail and Mooner's Hollow Trail. Jack Harris was in his glory, as frost flowers were abundant throughout the park, particularly near the Big River picnic area, where what originally looked like white paper trash was in fact hundreds of frost flowers. All were at the base of white crownbeard (*Verbesina virginica*) stems. Frost flowers form from moisture squeezed upward from the root system, freezing into ribbon and icicle shapes under proper weather conditions. A good question is why only certain species form frost flowers. For example, a close relative, *Verbesina alternifolia* (yellow ironweed), does not. On the Missouri Trail near the river, giant sycamore

(*Plantanus occidentalis*) trees were seen, some over six feet in diameter; however, still nowhere near the state champion's eight feet diameter. On the Mooner's Hollow Trail, leaves of *Mentha* sp. (mint) were growing in a spring discharge stream; species could not be determined without flowers. Also seen was Indian grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), whose vertical inflorescence spikes have a tendency to curl back and attach to stems, giving a unique circular appearance. Father Sullivan came up with another "far out" test, rosette leaves of *Salvia lyrata* (lyre leaf sage); then redeemed himself by explaining how walking fern (*Asplenium rhizophyllum*) branches actually "walk" forward to form new plants.

January 3, Greensfelder Park, St. Louis County—the weather gods fortunately provided a windless day as seven faithful braved very crisp 20° temperatures, to check out a glade south and east of the Otis Brown/Pawnee parking lot. Jack Harris and Nels Holmberg correctly named an *Asclepias quadrifolia* (whorled milkweed) test, then both spotted frost flowers on dittany (*Cunila origanoides*), although much smaller and less numerous than the previous week's finds. In the upper forest an unusually large shadbush tree (*Amelanchier arborea*) was seen, and an Osage orange (*Maclura pomifera*) was found at the glade's edge. Also seen were *Hackelia virginiana* (Virginia stickseed) and *Cheilanthes feei* (slender lip fern), as well as a large flock of eastern bluebirds. Near a picnic table, Father Sullivan again demonstrated the problems of naming trees by bark appearance, when leaf rachis identification proved a young, smooth-bark tree to be shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*).

January 11, Washington MO Riverfront Trail, Franklin County—a sunny 45° day helped to attract a probable January record crowd of 14 (including new members Donna & Bob Kirschenmann and Ray Poninski), who checked out this new Missouri River trail. A row of 10 bald cypress trees (*Taxodium distichum*) graced the trailhead at

the east end of the riverfront parking lot. Some interesting plants seen were *Cynanchum laeve* (angle pod), many young *Populus deltoides* (cottonwood) saplings, fragrant *Artemisia annua* (sweet wormwood), *Catalpa* sp. (catalpa) with large, oval leaf scars, *Acalypha virginica* (Virginia three-seeded mercury), the nefarious *Alliaria petiolata* (garlic mustard) and a *Chenopodium* (pitseed goosefoot) which defied species classification due to lack of mature fruits. Marian Meyer found tiny, purple spheres which Father Sullivan identified as the inner receptacle which holds seeds in sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) fruits. Cruising through muddy soil, Nels Holmberg came up with a matted alga (*Vaucheria* sp.) and mudflat liverwort (*Ricciocarpos natans*). Adding to the group's geographical knowledge, Father Sullivan explained that a river bend four miles east of Washington represented the southernmost point of the Missouri River in the United States.

January 17, Rockwoods Range, St. Louis County—eight persons gathered on a chilly and cloudy 30° day to walk portions of the Green Rock Trail and Fox Creek bottomland. Along with partially successful efforts made to collect twigs for Father Sullivan's upcoming MONPS talk, emphasis was placed on bud identification. One interesting observation was comparison of inappropriately named redbud's (*Cercis canadensis*) tiny black bud vs. basswood's (*Tilia americana*) bright red bud. Also noted were the large brown, terminal buds of Ohio buckeye (*Aesculus glabra*), the hairy buds of slippery elm (*Ulmus rubra*), and Carolina willow (*Salix caroliniana*) with yellowish-green buds and hairy twig ends. Several tree trunks had copious, felt-like growths of *Lepraria lobificans* (powder lichen). Several years ago on a warmer January day, lacewing larvae were found scurrying around carrying this lichen material on their backs. A dead 12 inch diameter tree trunk was carved almost in half over a six foot length, apparently by woodpeckers, as no beaver evidence was seen on the hillside.

January 24, Young Conservation Area, Franklin County—a 40°, cloudy day was the setting as 10 people traversed sections of the Taconic Trail. Father Sullivan, after being almost late, having stopped along a road shoulder to salvage some lush black oak (*Quercus velutina*) buds from utility crew branch cuttings, promptly found the year's first flowering plant, shepherd's purse (*Capsella bursa-pastoris*) along the parking lot edge. Interesting twig and bud characteristics observed were persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*) with "smiley face" leaf scar, hop tree (*Ptelea trifoliata*) having hidden, recessed buds, "two-eyed face" leaf scars of black walnut (*Juglans nigra*), and tiny thorns guarding prickly ash's (*Zanthoxylum americanum*) buds. Growing on a hop tree twig were found white insect egg masses, identified by Father Sullivan as thorn bugs (*Enchenopa binotata*). Many eastern hop hornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*) trees were still retaining dried leaves in the forest understory. Jeannie Moe and Jack Harris identified the call of a red-shouldered hawk, just before the bird flew overhead, and later Jack successfully answered a dried *Blephilia ciliata* (Ohio horse mint) test. Twig and bud analyses helped to identify tulip trees (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) and black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*), planted as part of a restoration project in the creek bottomland.

January 31, Lost Corners Farm, Ste. Genevieve County—John McCollum graciously invited the Botany Group for a repeat visit to his property, but could do nothing about the constant 40° drizzle. John led the soggy assembly of five over hilltop meadows, through woodlands to a bottomland creek. The house sits on a high knoll in open land, with a grizzled pear tree (*Pyrus communis*) as the sole front yard occupant. Father Sullivan was able to obtain a stout *Ailanthus altissima* (tree of heaven) twig for his collection from a back yard brushpile. On the high ground were seen *Croton capitatus* (woolly croton), *C. monanthogynus* (one-seeded croton), *Sassafras molle* (sassafras), *Ulmus rubra* (slippery elm), *Bumelia lanuginosa* (gum

bumelia) and numerous *Juglans nigra* (black walnut). Interesting finds in the creek area were black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*) and alder (*Alnus serrulata*). Some native short leaf pines (*Pinus echinata*) were growing in the forest, where Nancy Clark took photos of fan shaped, white, hexagonal-pored polypore (*Favolus alveolaris*) fungi, attached to a dead branch. The dominant moss in the forest was *Thuidium delicatulum* (fern moss); also plentiful here were *Asplenium platyneuron* (ebony spleenwort) and *Flavoparmelia baltimorensis* (Baltimore yellow rock lichen), the latter growing on sandstone rocks.

February 7, Pea Ridge Conservation Area, Washington County—a previous night's light snow dusting didn't deter nine enthusiasts from making the annual witch hazel trek on a day which achieved a sunny 50°. Just before heading for the witch hazel, at the edge of the gravel parking lot were found slimy clumps of nostoc algae (*Nostoc pruniforme*). Indian Creek's gravel bars did show the flowering Ozark witch hazel (*Hamamelis vernalis*), but both the blossoms and their fragrance were just getting started. Both red and yellow petals were present and Marge Ruschill speculated that the yellow flowers appeared to have more aroma than the red. At the edge of a nearby cultivated field, Father Sullivan reminded everyone that corn (*Zea mays*) is indeed a grass and used the dried remains of a cornstalk to illustrate parts of a grass plant. Many dried shrubby St. John's wort (*Hypericum prolificum*) plants were seen, while Jack Harris found the filmy fruits of wafer ash/hop tree (*Ptelea trifoliata*). Clumps of *Andropogon gyrans* (Elliott's broomsedge) and *A. virginicus* (broomsedge) gave Father Sullivan the opportunity to illustrate the latter's color variation from pale to dark gold, depending on light transmission through the leaves.

February 14, Forest 44 Conservation Area, St. Louis County—on a moderate winter day, 13 persons renewed acquaintances with this site after a long absence. *Lamium purpureum* (dead nettle) and *Stellaria media*

(common chickweed) took honors as the year's third and fourth flowering plants. Two *Viburnum* species, *V. prunifolium* (black haw) and *V. rufidulum* (southern black haw) were identified by bud color. Also found were three rose family members, pear (*Pyrus communis*), a questionable wild plum (*Prunus* sp.) and peach (*P. persica*). A dominant understory plant seen was *Rhamnus caroliniana* (Carolina buckthorn).

February 21, Robertsville State Park, Franklin County—looking for harbinger of spring (*Erigenia bulbosa*), a group of nine checked out the River Trail, east along the Meramec River from the boat ramp parking lot, with conditions feeling colder than the thermometer's 40°. Dorothy Emery found a dark, curled, woolly worm, probably a good indicator of the chilly day. Although the plants were few, Father Sullivan did manage to spot harbinger's tiny flowers near the parking lot. Later, a flowering silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*) was seen, increasing the year's miniscule flowering plant list. Among trees identified by bud and twig characteristics were green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) with narrow grayish buds, basswood (*Tilia americana*) having red buds, red twigs of swamp dogwood (*Cornus amomum*) and pawpaw's (*Asimina triloba*) soft, "camel-hair brush" buds. Loose, large nuts found on the ground appeared to be shellbark hickory (*Carya laciniosa*). Jack Harris spotted yellow candle lichen (*Candelaria concolor*) on a branch, then later discovered a large fungus growth of milk-white toothed polypore (*Irpelex lacteus*); this whitish-tan fungus, which has pores ending in jagged teeth, is common on dead, deciduous wood throughout North America.

February 28, Missouri Botanical Garden—due to lingering snow cover from a recent snowfall, eight persons, including first-timer Ken Parker, opted for the gentler confines of the "Garden". The Gauguin Orchid Show was in full glory, with many outstanding plants, several of which were *Phaiopodium villosum*, a "lady slipper"

type with yellow flowers and tan sepals, *Ladisia discolor*, having white flowers appearing like our ladies' tresses, but dark brown, striped leaves and *Dendrobium spectabile*, a wrinkled and twisted lady slipper appearing diseased, until Father Sullivan confirmed in his orchid book that this odd feature was normal. In the Linnean House was seen the tea plant (*Camellia sinensis*), source of tea for over 2,000 years. The Biblical Garden in Schoenberg Temperate House featured a large date palm (*Phoenix dactylifera*), always growing near springs and the subject of Father Sullivan's upcoming Sunday sermon. A papaya tree (*Carica papaya*) in the Climatron had super-big leaf scars, each with one large bundle scar, dwarfing anything seen at the previous night's bud-twig seminar. Also seen here were the huge, one foot long, spiked, red bracts of palm-like *Heliconia caribaea*. After determining that sawtooth oak (*Quercus acutissima*) fuzzy buds were similar to, but less flat-sided than black oak (*Q. velutina*), yellow flowers of lesser celandine (*Ranunculus ficaria*), and Lenten rose (*Helleborus orientalis*) with mixed white and purple blossoms, were spotted in the Woodland Garden.

Thanks to Jack Harris for furnishing information for this article. ~

An Owl at Night

R. C. Trevelyan

From time to time an owl hoots in the distance.

He hoots not for me, I know;

Yet he seems to be uttering some deep meaning, some passionate wisdom.

Was it by such-like solemn shuddering cries That our own remote forefathers before the birth of language

Communed with one another speechlessly, Uttering their solitary moods of grief and joy and exaltation?

April 2002 Bird Report

Jim Ziebol & Yvonne Homeyer

Viola Buchholtz passed away this month. She was a dedicated birder and a good friend. She will be missed.

Except for a few good days in mid-April, songbird migration has been dismal. Although most species did arrive on time, they were not seen in the expected numbers and some species were not reported at all. Shorebirds, however, were seen in strong numbers. There were sightings of 20 Avocets, 12 Marbled Godwits, and 8 Piping Plovers. Also of note were Yellow Rails, Black Vultures and a Golden Eagle.

BCA = Busch Wildlife Area

CL = Carlyle Lake

FP = Forest Park

HL = Horseshoe Lake

LVT = Lost Valley Trail

MTC = Marais Temps Clair

REDA = Riverlands Env. Demonstration Area

TGP = Tower Grove Park

First observation dates:

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------|
| 4/3 Cattle Egret | HL | J&MH |
| 4/4 Field Sparrow | TGP | Th Group |
| 4/6 N. Parula | Rockwoods | MT |
| 4/6 House Wren | Castlewd | Sat Group |
| 4/7 Virginia Rail | Indian Lake (formerly Collinsville Rd. Golf Course) | MB |
| 4/7 Franklin's Gull | near HL | MB |
| 4/7 Snowy Egret | Sauget marsh | MB |
| 4/7 Osprey | REDA | M. ob. |
| 4/9 Upland Sandpiper | Little Creve Coeur Lake | IH |
| 4/10 Forster's Tern | HL | FH |
| 4/11 Chipping Sparrow & Chimney Swift, | HL (FH); Whip-poor-will, Jefferson County (MP); White-eyed Vireo, TGP (T Be); Palm Warbler, TGP (Th. Group) | |
| 4/12 Yellow-throated Vireo | FP | RK |
| 4/13 Bank Swallow, HL (YH); Cliff Swallow, HL (CA, T Bo, KL); Golden Eagle, HL (JZ, YH); Indigo Bunting & Tennessee Warbler, Castlewd (JZ); Cerulean Warbler & Prothonotary Warbler, Castlewood (MB, YH); E. Kingbird & Red-eyed Vireo, TGP (IH); Worm-eating Warbler, Castlewood | | |

- (MB) and Brentwood Memorial Park (G&TB); LeConte's & Clay-colored Sparrow, MTNWR (BR); Green Heron, TGP (G&TB)
- 4/14 Yellow Warbler, Warbling Vireo
BCA CM
- 4/15 Orange-crowned & Nashville Warblers, TGP (S Mc); Black-throated Green, TGP (J&NS); Wood Thrush, Scarlet & Summer Tanager, Tyson (JW)
- 4/16 Hooded Warbler, Castlewood (CM); Kentucky Warbler & Ovenbird, TGP (WK & S Mc); Blue-winged & Prairie Warbler, BCA (D Bz); Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Ste. Genevieve County (NH)
- 4/17 Great-crested Flycatcher, FP (RK); Baltimore Oriole, Rose-breasted Grosbeak & Lincoln's Sparrow, TGP (T Be); Purple Finch, Blue-headed Solitary Vireo, TGP (NB); Swainson's Thrush, TGP (DW); Least Flycatcher, Castlewood (KL); Common Yellowthroat, Shaw Nature Reserve (J Mo) and HL (FH)
- 4/18 Yellow Rail, BCA (JJ)
- 4/19 Chestnut-sided Warbler, Tyson (JW); Gray Catbird, TGP (AH); Redstart, TGP (PB); Common Yellowthroat, TGP (S Mc); N. Waterthrush, TGP (JZ)
- 4/20 Grasshopper Sparrow, HL (JZ, YH); Am. Bittern and Sora, MTC (CA); White-rumped Sandpiper, MTNWR (Ill. Sat. Group); Philadelphia Vireo, Mo. Botanical Garden (IH); Yellow-headed Blackbird, REDA (Corps staff)
- 4/21 Golden-winged Warbler, TGP (BK, DB); Bay-breasted Warbler, Castlewood (JZ); E. Wood Pewee, Castlewood (D Bz); Marbled Godwit, REDA (JU); Caspian Tern, REDA (LB); Cinnamon Teal, CL (DK); Semi-palmated Sandpiper, REDA (JU); Least Sandpiper, REDA (DB, JU); Spotted Sandpiper, REDA (DB, G&TB); Western Kingbird, Ill. Hwy. 3 (DB)
- 4/23 Yellow-breasted Chat, BCA (P&BJ)
- 4/24 Stilt Sandpiper, Clarence Cannon (CC); Blackpoll, TGP (RAB); Olive-sided Flycatcher, Lost Valley Trail (T Be)
- 4/25 Piping Plover (8), a federal Endangered Species, Clarence Cannon (CC, BS); Avocet (20), REDA (PB)
- 4/27 Semipalmated Plover, REDA (DR); Wilson's Phalarope (2), REDA (J&CM)
- 4/28 Lark Sparrow 2, HL (YH, JZ) & Valmeyer (MR); Bobolink, HL (FH); Black Vulture (2), Fort Kaskaskia (J&NS et al.)

Sightings: Ian Hunt found an Eared Grebe, 8 Horned Grebes, and 43 Bonaparte's Gulls at Creve Coeur Lk. on 4/1. On 4/3, 6 Cattle Egrets were seen near HL (J&MH). Joe Smentowski reported 5 White Pelicans at HL 4/14. On 4/26, an American Bittern was seen at REDA (MAA, DR). Ten Yellow-crowned Night Herons are nesting in a Granite City park, along with 2 pairs of Cooper's Hawks (FH). Frank also found 50 White-fronted Geese at HL on 4/3. Two hundred Blue-winged Teal were seen at REDA on 4/25 (T Be). At least 100 Snow Geese were seen migrating over Castlewood on 4/2 (D Bz, YH). Two Cinnamon Teal were a very good find at CL on 4/21 (DK). Jim Jackson found his life Yellow Rail in the field next to the Shorebird Area at BCA on 4/18 and Connie Alwood heard one at MTC on 4/29. Virginia and Sora Rails were reported, along with Marsh Wrens, at the Hwy. 79 slough on 4/21 (SS).

Charlene Malone found 145 Golden Plovers and 45 Snipe at Portage de Sioux on 4/4 and 85 Golden Plovers were seen at Elk Road at Hwy. 94 on 4/15 (T Be). A Marbled Godwit was hotlined from REDA on 4/21 (JU, m. ob.) and by 4/27, 12 were present there (JU, CA et al.). The Malones observed 8 Willets at REDA the evening of 4/28. On 4/7, 1,000 Pectoral Sandpipers were estimated at Hwy. 161 and Pelican Road (DK). Upland Sandpipers were found at Little Creve Coeur Marsh on 4/9 (IH) and at HL on 4/13 (CA, T Bo, KL). On 4/29 Jeannie Moe reported 500 Greater Yellowlegs, 500 Lesser Yellowlegs, 10 Least and 10 Semipalmated Sandpipers at Harbor Point.

On 4/21, an adult Laughing Gull, a Franklin's Gull, Caspian Terns and Forster's Terns were seen at REDA (DB, PB, P&BJ, m. ob.). A Golden Eagle was a somewhat late migrant at HL on 4/13 (YH, JZ) and the bird was relocated the following day (T Be). Ospreys were observed on 4/6 at REDA (MT), at Shaw Nature Reserve on 4/10 (J Mo), and at Howell Island on 4/20 (Ted Heisel). On 4/21, 48 Broad-winged Hawks were counted migrating at tree-top level in TGP (YH, JZ). On 4/6, Ian Hunt found a Peregrine Falcon at Chain of Rocks and a Merlin and Water Pipits at REDA. Another Merlin was seen on 4/12 at TGP (NB).

Three fledgling Great Horned Owls were observed at FP on 4/8 (KC). On 4/11, Vivian Liddell hooted in 2 Barred Owls near the dredge at HL and on 4/14 one was observed catching a rodent at BCA (D Bz, KP). A Pileated Woodpecker was seen at the bubbler of TGP on 4/14 (S Mc, Judy & Cliff LaMotte). Very few Red-headed Woodpeckers were observed in migration this spring but one was seen at TGP on 4/17 (BK, NB). Several Red-breasted Nuthatches were seen in TGP (BK, NB). The Thursday Group found Winter & House Wrens, along with Louisiana Waterthrush and Yellow-throated Warbler, at Castlewood on 4/16. Torrey Berger counted 28 Ruby-crowned Kinglets on 4/9 in TGP. On 4/5, a Loggerhead Shrike was seen along Hayford Rd. (CA, T Bo, KL). Anna Hendricks reported 3 Gray Catbirds, Wood Thrush and Redstart at TGP on 4/19. Seven Prothonotary Warblers were found at Castlewood on 4/13 (MB). Prairie Warblers occurred in TGP on 4/18 (Th. Group) and 4/21 (CS). On 4/18, Mary Ann Auer found a Worm-eating Warbler in Brentwood Memorial Park. A Cerulean Warbler was observed at Red's Landing on 4/20 (LH), a singing male was seen at the bridge in Emmenegger Park on 4/23 (RG), on 4/25 one was reported at Lost Valley Trail (G&TB), and on 4/29 Wilma Kennell watched a Cerulean male interacting with a N. Parula at Shaw Nature Reserve. Torrey Berger estimated 100 Chipping Sparrows on 4/16 at TGP. Harris's Sparrow and Clay-

colored Sparrow were seen at the Weldon Spring Blue Grosbeak Trail by Bill Rowe and his class on 4/28. A Brewer's Blackbird, observed by the Barkers on 4/13, was a good find for TGP. On 4/13, good counts at TGP included 25 Brown Thrashers, 12 Towhees, 10 Brown Creepers, and 8 Ruby-crowned Kinglets (YH, JZ). Sherry McCowan described the trees in TGP as "alive with birds" on 4/14, including Black-and-white Warbler, Orange-crowned, Nashville, Tennessee Warbler, and White-crowned Sparrow. On 4/18, Nick Barber found 2 Purple Finch, Summer Tanager, Blue-headed Vireo, 12 Gray Catbirds, and Prairie Warbler in TGP. Jane Walker reported that by 4/17 at Tyson, Hooded, Chestnut-sided, Worm-eating and Kentucky Warblers and Wood Thrush, both Orioles, 4 species of Vireos, and both Tanagers had arrived. Frank Holmes reported Virginia Rail, Bobolink and an adult Bald Eagle at HL on 4/28. Claudia Spener reported Bobolinks and N. Bobwhite at HL on 4/30. A typical day at Little Creve Coeur Marsh on 4/30 included 6 Sora, 3 Greater Yellowlegs, 17 Lesser Yellowlegs, 5 Solitary Sandpipers, 3 Spotted Sandpipers, 2 Eastern Kingbirds, 1 Marsh Wren, 2 Yellow Warblers, 1 Yellow-throated Warbler, 3 Common Yellowthroats, and 2 Orchard Orioles (MT). A breeding pair of Pine Siskins at Rockwoods is a record for the area; there are less than 10 records for the whole state. The nest has been carefully observed by Sherry McCowan*, Mike Thelen, and Charlene Malone. Three young have been seen in the nest.

Comments: On 4/8, Bruce Wetteroth had 2 Field Sparrows at his home. Wilma Kennell had the following yard birds: a Whip-poor-will on 4/14, Towhee and Chipping Sparrow on 4/16, Blue-winged Warbler and White-eyed Vireo on 4/19, a Chat on 4/28, and on 4/30, Indigo Bunting, Baltimore Oriole and White-crowned Sparrow. Her Gray Catbird returned on 4/22. Margy Terpstra observed Bay-breasted and Golden-winged Warbler and Purple Finch at her backyard bubbler on 4/29. Linda Yust found a Green Heron near her home on 4/14. A Cooper's

Hawk was observed by Jeannie Moe in her yard on 4/7. The Johnsons reported a Golden-winged Warbler on 4/30, a Purple Finch on 4/4, and Pine Siskin on 4/23 in their yard. Paul Bauer observed a Merlin flying over his yard.

To submit a report, call Jim Ziebol at 314-781-7372 or email Yvonne Homeyer at homeyer@earthlink.net by the last day of the month.

Contributors: Connie Alwood, Mary Ann Auer, Loy Barber, Nick Barber, George & Terry Barker, Paul Bauer, Torrey Berger, David Becher, Rose Ann Bodman, Tom Bormann, Mike Brady, Jackie Chain, Candy Chambers, Ken Cohen, Don & Cheryl Delashmit, Ron Goetz, Lou Hanes, Nancy Havicon, Anna Hendricks, Frank Holmes, Jim & Margot Holsen, Yvonne Homeyer, Ian Hunt, Jim Jackson, Paul & Barbara Johnson, Dan Kassebaum, Bob Kleiger, Kent Lannert, Wilma Kennell, Randy Korotev, Jim & Charlene Malone, Sherry McCowan, Jeannie Moe, Kraig Paradise, Mark Peters, Mary Regan, Marge Richardson, Dave Rogles, Bill Rowe, Bruce Schuette, Scott Schuette, John & Nancy Solodar, Claudia Spener, Mike Thelen, Kathy Thiele, Josh Uffman, Jane Walker, Doug Willis, Helen Wuestenfeld, Linda Yust; Jim Ziebol, Dave Ziolkowski, many observers. An asterisk means "documented." ~

Next Deadline: Aug. 9

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

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. ~

Conservation Report June 2002

Yvonne Homeyer

Holcim (Holnam) Update: Three divisions of Mo. Dept. of Natural Resources are looking over various applications by Holcim for state permits. The Land Reclamation Division is evaluating Holcim's request to start mining the 1,600 acre quarry. At their May 30 meeting, the commissioners will decide whether to hold a public hearing. Many letters were submitting in opposition to the proposed project during the public comment period. After the Clean Water Commission overturned DNR's issuance of a 401 water quality certification to Holcim (see last month's report), Holcim re-applied to DNR for another 401 certification. A public hearing will be held but no details are available yet. And the Air Pollution Control Program continues to look into the air pollution issues of the proposed cement plant. At the federal level, the Corps of Engineers still has Holcim's application for a 404 permit under consideration, including whether to require an Environmental Impact Statement. No work has taken place on the site since the road was completed last summer.

Little Creve Coeur Lake: Little Creve Coeur Lake, a natural wetlands and a popular birding spot, is now part of the Page Ave. Mitigation Project. WGNSS and other groups have been meeting with St. Louis County and Missouri Dept. of Transportation to get information about the status of the mitigation project and the Master Plan for the area.

Chip Mill Tour: On June 2, there will be a trip to the Ozarks to see first-hand what a clearcut looks like and to view the refreshing contrast of Pioneer Forest, a model of sustainable forestry. Owned by Leo and Kay Drey (a long-time WGNSS member), Pioneer Forest demonstrates that it is possible to have a profitable timbercutting operation and still preserve a viable forest for future cutting, all the while providing important habitat for birds, plants and wildlife. If you are interested in going, call Dana Barhard at the Coali-

tion for the Environment, 314-727-0600. Clearcutting, on the other hand, strips the land of all vegetation, thereby destroying habitat and endangering nearby streams. The best trees are sold as high quality timber and the less valuable trees are sold to chip mills, which are capable of grinding them up into chips. Clearcuts are now starting to work their way from the heart of the Ozarks toward the St. Louis area. The closest clearcut is a 1600 acre cut on the edge of the Sam A. Baker State Park in Wayne County.

What's Lost, What's Left: A well-written report by the Sierra Club on the current status of the birds and animals encountered by Lewis & Clark is available at www.sierraclub.org.

Conservation Committee: The Conservation Committee will meet in June. Please call Yvonne Homeyer, 314-963-7750, if you would like to participate on the Committee. ~

Butterfly Outings This Summer

When the weather gets too hot for birds, switch to butterflies! NABA-St. Louis will sponsor Butterfly Walks and Counts at various locations throughout the summer. WGNSS members are invited to participate. All our butterfly walks are free; counts have a \$3 per person fee. Events that are already on our calendar are:

Sun. 5/26. Memorial Day Weekend Butterfly Count. Meet at 9:45 a.m. at the Jim Ziebol Butterfly Garden in Busch Wildlife. The Garden is a joint project of WGNSS and NABA.

Saturday, 6/1. Butterfly Walk at Mark Peters' prairie. 10:00 a.m. Call Mark for directions. 636-296-9159.

Sunday, July 7. NABA 4th of July Butterfly Count. Meet at 9:45 at the Butterfly Garden in Busch Wildlife.

Sat. 8/24. 4th of July Butterfly Count at Horseshoe Lake, Granite City, Ill. Meeting location and time TBA.

For more butterfly walks that will be scheduled later, call Yvonne Homeyer, 314-963-7750, or check the calendar on the NABA-

St. Louis web site www.naba.org, click on Local Chapters, scroll down to Mo. ~

Least Tern Observers Needed

John Solodar

For a number of years members of the St. Louis Audubon Society and WGNSS have been negotiating with the Army Corps of Engineers to implement some sort of strategy which would enable the endangered Interior Least Tern to successfully resume its former nesting habits in the greater St. Louis area. These negotiations have finally born fruit as a result of a sharing agreement which was worked out between some birders and the Corps. The Audubon Society will have legal and financial responsibility for part of the agreement, but we need many birding volunteers, regardless of affiliation, to carry out that portion which requires area birders to monitor the site during the summer of 2002 and to document the breeding activity that we hope to see.

The Corps has completed work on a new island which was cut off the tip of Ellis Island. This island should be above the level of the summer navigation pool which has flooded out previous attempts by the least terns to nest on temporary mud islands in Ellis Bay. The island has been covered with sand and lined with rip-rap and a channel has been constructed to deter predators. Signs will be posted warning boaters to stay away.

The monitoring work will be done from a blind which should be constructed by a group of volunteers before mid-May. Since this blind is at the end of Ellis Island, the Corps has promised us that we will have a key to open the gate at the Ellis Island parking lot in order drive the one mile distance to the blind. There is a solid parking area at the end of the road and a 150 - 200 ft trail will be completed to the blind. The road appears to be readily passable by an ordinary passenger car. Paul Bauer, among others, has visited the blind site and describes the view as, "Stunning."

We have agreed to a schedule of 2 hours of observation per day for 3 observation days

per week. The days during each week are not to be contiguous. The 2 hour period can be anytime from sunrise to 10:00 am. The Corps would like us to conduct this survey from May 15 - August 31. The peak of nesting, according to Rochelle Renken, is during the last two weeks of June. However, the ultimate goal is successfully fledged chicks so we will continue monitoring into August to determine how successful the least terns are.

While we expect that most volunteer observers will have an ability to identify the least terns and the other birds that will be on the island, that is not a prerequisite. There will be a good number of experienced birders to teach newer birders the identifying marks of the terns, Ring-billed Gulls and common shorebirds that might be present. If you would like to volunteer please contact John Solodar at 314-862-5294 or solo-dar1@mindspring.com. Tell him when you will be available and he will arrange the schedule. If you can do an entire week, that would be fine. If you would prefer to spread the days out over the summer, that will work too. ~

Next Deadline: Aug. 9

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

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. ~

next *Nature Notes* deadline:

Aug 9

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

10 AM Oak Bend Library, 842 S. Holmes Kirkwood

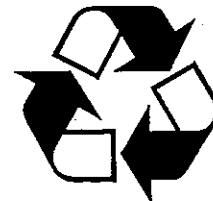
| <i>mailing party</i> | <i>deadline</i> |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Aug. 19 | Aug. 9 |
| Sept. 16 | Sept. 6 |
| Oct. 21 | Oct. 11 |
| Nov. 18 | Nov. 8 |
| Dec. 16 | Dec. 6 |

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Webster Groves Nature Study Society

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



Nature Notes is printed on recycled paper.

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 Cntr: Yvonne Homeyer 963-7750

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: Mike Flieg 314-645-3356

mailing party for Nature Notes

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

spring banquet

second Thursday in May

Nature Notes deadlines

There are no issues in July or Aug.
10 days prior to 3rd Mon. Aug.-May: call
Anne McCormack 314-965-8091
mccormacka@earthlink.net

membership expires/renewal due
Aug. 31

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Member at Large: Mike Thelen

943 Morehouse Ln.
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314-862-6642

| name | remarks 02 |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Pied-billed Grebe | Katy Trail river access |
| Am Wt Pelican | riverlands |
| Double-crested Cormora | Bend Rd |
| Great Blue Heron | √ |
| Great Egret | √ |
| Snowy Egret | √ |
| Little Blue Heron | √ |
| Cattle Egret | √ |
| Green Heron | √ |
| Black-crwn Nt-Heron | √ |
| Yellow-crwn Nt-Heron | Forest Pk-Lindell |
| Canada Goose | √ |
| Wood Duck | √ |
| Mallard | √ |
| Blue-winged Teal | √ |
| Northern Shoveler | new since 00 |
| Gadwall | √ |
| Ring-necked Duck | Hayford Rd |
| Hooded Merganser | Busch shorebd & Collinsv |
| Ruddy Duck | Busch-33 |
| Turkey Vulture | Busch |
| Mississippi Kite | new since 00 |
| Cooper's Hawk | Busch |
| Red-shouldered Hawk | Busch-lost v |
| Broad-winged Hawk | Busch-94-new since 99 |
| Red-tailed Hawk | √ |
| Am Kestrel | √ |
| Ring-necked Pheasant | riverlands |
| Wild Turkey | Busch-lost v |
| N Bobwhite | √ |
| Sora | Little CC |
| Am Coot | Little CC |
| Semipalmated Plover | Dwiggins Rd |
| Killdeer | √ |
| Greater Yellowlegs | new since 99 |
| Lesser Yellowlegs | Bend Rd-east |
| Solitary Sandpiper | new since 00 |

| name | remarks 02 |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Spotted Sandpiper | Busch-33 |
| Least Sandpiper | Dwiggins |
| Pectoral Sandpiper | Bend Rd |
| Short-billed Dowitcher | Orchard Fann |
| American Woodcock | Busch-grosbk tr |
| Franklin's Gull | new since 00 |
| Ring-billed Gull | riverlands |
| Herring Gull | riverlands |
| Forster's Tern | Horseshoe Lk |
| Black Tern | Horseshoe Lk |
| Rock Dove | √ |
| Mourning Dove | √ |
| Yellow-billed Cuckoo | tower grove |
| Great Horned Owl | Rockwoods |
| Barred Owl | √ |
| Common Nighthawk | √ |
| Chuck-will's-widow | High Ridge |
| Whip-poor-will | Busch-lost valley |
| Chimney Swift | √ |
| Ruby-thr Hummingbird | √ |
| Red-headed Woodpecker | tower grove |
| Red-bellied Woodpecker | √ |
| Downy Woodpecker | √ |
| Hairy Woodpecker | new since 00 |
| Northern Flicker | √ |
| Pileated Woodpecker | Busch |
| Eastern Wood-Pewee | √ |
| Acadian Flycatcher | Busch |
| Willow Flycatcher | mtc |
| Least Flycatcher | Busch |
| Eastern Phoebe | √ |
| Great Crested Flycatcher | √ |
| Western Kingbird | IL Rt 3 |
| Eastern Kingbird | √ |
| Horned Lark | Katy Tr river access |
| Purple Martin | √ |
| Tree Swallow | √ |

| name | remarks 02 |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| N Rough-winged Swallow | √ |
| Bank Swallow | Busch-33 |
| Cliff Swallow | Busch-33 |
| Barn Swallow | √ |
| Blue Jay | √ |
| American Crow | √ |
| Fish Crow | Castlewood |
| Black-capped Chickadee | √ |
| Carolina Chickadee | √ |
| Tufted Titmouse | √ |
| White-breasted Nuthatch | √ |
| Carolina Wren | √ |
| House Wren | √ |
| Sedge Wren (Short-Billed) | riverlands |
| Marsh Wren (Long-Billed) | Little CC |
| Ruby-crowned Kinglet | new since 99 |
| Blue-gray Gnatcatcher | √ |
| Eastern Bluebird | √ |
| Veery | tower grove & Busch |
| Gray-cheeked Thrush | tower grove |
| Swainson's Thrush | tower grove |
| Wood Thrush | Busch |
| American Robin | √ |
| Gray Catbird | √ |
| Northern Mockingbird | √ |
| Brown Thrasher | √ |
| Cedar Waxwing | √ |
| Loggerhead Shrike | Powers Rd new since 92 |
| European Starling | √ |
| White-eyed Vireo | √ |
| Bell's Vireo | Busch-grosbeak tr |
| Blue-headed (Solitary) V | tower grove |
| Yellow-throated Vireo | Busch & tower grove |
| Warbling Vireo | √ |
| Philadelphia Vireo | tower grove |
| Red-eyed Vireo | √ |
| Blue-winged Warbler | Busch |

| name | remarks 02 |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Tennessee Warbler | √ |
| Orange-crowned Warbler | new since 99 |
| Nashville Warbler | √ |
| Northern Parula Warb | √ |
| Yellow Warbler | √ |
| Chestnut-sided Warbler | tower grove |
| Magnolia Warbler | tower grove |
| Cape May Warbler | new since 99 |
| Yellow-rumped Warbler | tower grove |
| Black-thr Green Warbler | Busch-lost v |
| Blackburnian Warbler | tower grove |
| Yellow-throated Warbler | Busch-lost v |
| Pine Warbler | new since 99 |
| Prairie Warbler | Busch-hwy 94 |
| Palm Warbler | Busch-hwy 94 |
| Bay-breasted Warbler | tower grove |
| Blackpoll Warbler | Busch |
| Cerulean Warbler | Busch-lost v |
| Black & White Warbler | tower grove |
| American Redstart Warb | tower grove |
| Prothonotary Warbler | Horseshoe |
| Worm-eating Warbler | Rockwoods & lost v |
| Ovenbird warb | √ |
| Northern Waterthrush W | Busch-lost v |
| Louisiana Waterthrush W | √ |
| Kentucky Warbler | √ |
| Connecticut Warbler | new-first ever! |
| Mourning Warbler | Castlewood |
| Common Yellowthroat w | √ |
| Hooded Warbler | new since 00 |
| Wilson's Warbler | Busch-near shorebd |
| Canada Warbler | TGP count week |
| Yellow-breasted Chat w | √ |
| Summer Tanager | √ |
| Scarlet Tanager | √ |
| Northern Cardinal | √ |
| Rose-br Grosbeak | √ |

Composite 5/11/02

| name | remarks 02 |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Blue Grosbeak | Bend Rd |
| Indigo Bunting | √ |
| Dickcissel | Bend Rd |
| Eastern (Rufous-s) Towl | √ |
| Chipping Sparrow | √ |
| Field Sparrow | √ |
| Lark Sparrow | Katy tr river access |
| Savannah Sparrow | Bend Rd & Busch |
| Song Sparrow | √ |
| White-throated Sparrow | √ |
| White-crowned Sparrow | √ |
| Bobolink | Bend Rd |
| Red-winged Blackbird | √ |
| Eastern Meadowlark | √ |
| Common Grackle | √ |
| Brown-headed Cowbird | √ |
| Orchard Oriole | √ |
| Baltimore Oriole | √ |
| House Finch | √ |
| American Goldfinch | √ |
| House Sparrow | √ |
| Eurasian Tree Sparrow | near riverlands |
| composite total | 170 |
| | |

| count | name | remarks 02 | remarks 01 |
|-------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Am Bittern | missed-seen 01 | marais temps clair |
| 1 | Least Bittern | missed-seen 01 | mtc-not seen since 93-new |
| 1 | Glossy Ibis | missed-seen 01 | pontoon beach-new |
| 1 | Northern Pintail | missed-seen 6 of last 7 yrs | riverlands |
| 1 | Lesser Scaup | missed-seen 6 of last 7 yr | riverlds-not seen since 99 |
| 1 | Northern Harrier | missed-seen 01 | marais temps clair-new |
| 1 | Black-bellied Plover | missed-seen 01 | riverld-not seen since 97-new |
| 1 | Hudsonian Godwit | missed-seen 01 | riverlands-seen 00 97 94 |
| 1 | White-rumped Sandpiper | missed-seen 01 | pontoon beach |
| 1 | Baird's Sandpiper | missed-seen 01 | pontoon beach |
| 1 | Dunlin | missed-seen 01 | riverld & st charles |
| 1 | Long-billed Dowitcher | missed-seen 01 | riverlands |
| 1 | Belted Kingfisher | missed-seen 01 | lost valley |
| 1 | Alder Flycatcher | missed-seen 01 | lost valley & bl grosbeak trail |
| 1 | Bewick's Wren | missed-seen 01 | busch shorebird |
| 1 | Hermit Thrush | missed-seen 99 | |
| 1 | Painted Bunting | missed-seen 01 | east st l-new |
| 1 | Clay-colored Sparrow | missed-seen 01 | |
| 1 | Grasshopper Sparrow | missed-seen 01 | near Bruns Rd |
| 1 | Henslow's Sparrow | missed-seen 01 | busch shorebd |
| 1 | LeConte's Sparrow | missed-seen 01 | busch-shorebd-new |
| 1 | Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sp | missed-seen 01 | busch-shorebd-new |
| 1 | Lincoln's Sparrow | missed-seen 01 | busch shorebird |
| 1 | Swamp Sparrow | missed-seen 01 | busch |
| 24 | | | |

Webster Groves Nature Study Society

Meetings

Wednesday Sept. 3

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

Friday Sept. 13

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

Botany

Thursdays May-Aug.

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

Entomology

Sunday Sept. 29

7 PM at Magners', 516 Bacon Ave., Webster, 314-961-4588. Show and tell. Members report on summer activities and discoveries with slides, photos, specimens, and stories. Slide projector will be available.

Nature Notes deadline Aug 9

Birding

Thursdays May-August

8:00 AM Des Peres Park on Ballas, one block n. of Manchester. Questions: call Dottie Herweg, 314-966-2274.

Saturdays May 25 and Aug. 17

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 Aug. 24 and 31

8 AM Riverlands. Meet at Teal Pond. Leader: David Becher, 314-576-1146.

Join WGNSS

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

www.wgnss.org



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Please make check payable to:

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