



Nature Notes

Journal of Webster Groves Nature Study Society

April 2003 Vol. 75, No. 4

314-935-8432

Call the Nature line for meetings and bird sightings.

www.wgnss.org

May 1st Banquet

Yvonne Homeyer

Please join us for our Annual Banquet on Thurs., May 1 at Eden Commons. Jack and Pat Harris will be our featured speakers that evening. Their topic, including a slide presentation, is glades and glade plants. At the Banquet, WGNSS will present a posthumous Lifetime Achievement Award to Dorothy Heinze, one of WGNSS's founding members, who worked tirelessly for nature all her life. Albert Heinze, her husband, will accept the award. Two of Dorothy's major achievements are the preservation of Victoria Glade and the creation of Mastodon State Park. Contact Pat McCormick for reservations. Pat is, as always, doing a wonderful job of making the arrangements so we know everything will be fabulous! (See p. 2).

Annual Membership Meeting on April 11

Yvonne Homeyer

A short business meeting will be held at the beginning of Heritage Night on April 11, which is also our annual membership meeting. The slate of candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee names Jim Adams and Randy Korotev for the positions of Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, offices which they currently hold. ☞

April 11 Heritage Night

Jim Adams

All aboard for Heritage Night! Come to 300 N. New Ballas Road—on the east side of Ballas between Olive and Ladue. Enter the Government Center at the northernmost entrance and drive to the rear parking lot. Walk back to the front of the building and enter the basement level Multi-purpose meeting room. The entrance doorway to this room is at the Northwest corner of the building, facing Ballas. A conspicuous "Police" sign is nearby.

Before leaving home, rustle up your most decrepit—from use—filed guide and your saddest-looking hiking boots as entries for the attendance prize contest. See last month's *Nature Notes* for more details. Because we will have an event-filled evening, activities will begin promptly at 7 PM. We suggest you arrive by 6:30-6:45 so you can get a name tap and program, register your entries in

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Spring Banquet

May 1

Eden Seminary Commons

in Webster Groves












WGNSS Spring Banquet on May Day!

Pat McCormick

May Day was historically a phrase of celebration, the welcome of flowers and the promise of renewal. We're planning to celebrate the return of flowers on May 1, 2003, at the annual Webster Groves Nature Study Society Spring Banquet in Eden Seminary Commons, Lockwood and Bompert Avenues in Webster Groves. A plant sale will begin at 5:45. We have chosen a list of butterfly/hummingbird/ wildlife-attracting plants that you may order using the form on p. 18, by 4/4. Social hour will begin at 5:45 PM with a buffet served at 6:45 catered by Hendri's.

Pat and Jack Harris, well-known botanists and members of our society, will present slide photos of Missouri glades and talk about the significance of this unique Missouri landscape.

-  5:45 social and plant sale
-  6:45 dinner buffet
-  8:00 Pat and Jack Harris, speakers
-  Reservations by April 25
-  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

Reservations due 4/25. Plant order by 4/4, see page 18.



Spring Banquet reservations for _____ persons @ \$20 per person = _____

Name _____

Name _____

April 11 Heritage Night cont.

the attendance prize contest, and find a seat in time for the opening bell.

To complement the talks by several veteran members, we've added a Nostalgia Table to display pictures of past WGNSS activities. Bring along any picture or other artifacts that you'd like to display. Put your name on each item and give them to the person taking care of this table when you arrive. An explanatory label would also help. You can reclaim them after the meeting. We'll also have a display of books written by members and a slide show that will operate continuously during the social period. During the social period, you'll have the opportunity to meet past president and authors of many of the books displayed on a WGNSS Writer's Table. Light refreshment will be served. ☘

Dates for 2003 Meetings

all meetings begin at 7:00 PM

- ☘ Fri., April 11, Creve Coeur Govt. Cntr.
- ☘ Thurs., May 1, Spring Banquet Eden Seminary, Webster
- ☘ Thurs., Sept. 18, St. L. Co. L-HQ
- ☘ Tues., Oct. 7, St. L. Co. L-HQ
- ☘ Thurs., Nov. 20, St. L. Co. L-HQ

Rathert's Talk A Great Success

Our program in February, featuring Jim Rathert, photographer for the Missouri Dept. of Conservation, was attended by over 100 people. Jim gave a presentation of his digital photographs of Missouri wildlife, primarily birds. His "Lewis & Clark" photo displayed the Lewis's Woodpecker and the Clark's Nutcracker side by side. His latest project is building a database of digital photos for MDC which will make it easier for people to have access to his work. He spoke very enthusiastically about digital photography – and birds!

We would like to thank Mitch Leachman of St. Louis Audubon for making this year's arrangements for our joint program with SLAS. ☘

Butterflying Anyone?

WGNSS members are invited to a Butterfly Walk sponsored by the North American Butterfly Association (NABA-St. Louis) on Sunday, April 27. We will meet at 11:00 AM at Valley View Glade. Ron Goetz will be the leader. Bring binoculars, field guide, water, and lunch. NABA uses sight identification techniques rather than netting or collecting. Option #1: From I-270 and Tesson Ferry Road (Hwy. 21), go south on Hwy. 21 for 26 miles to Hwy. B on the south side of Hillsboro. Turn right (west) onto Hwy. B at traffic signal and travel (west) approx. 5 miles to Valley View Glade parking lot on your right. Option #2: From I-270 and Gravois Road (Hwy. 30), travel south/west on Hwy. 30 for approx. 20 miles to Hwy. B. Turn left (east) at traffic signal onto Hwy. B. Continue for approx. 6 miles to Valley View Glade parking lot on your left. Special Caution: DO NOT turn onto Hwy. BB. Go past BB and look for B, which is the road you want. ☘

Welcome New Members

Yvonne Homeyer

If you have joined since September, you should have received a new member packet. If you did not, please call Dianne Benjamin (314-997-2419) or Yvonne Homeyer (314-963-7750) so we can send one to you. We are pleased that you have joined WGNSS and we are always open to your questions, comments or suggestions. ☘

Next Deadline: April 11

April starts on a Tuesday, and by our formula of 10 days prior to the third Monday, that gives us the latest possible deadline for April. Submissions—handwritten or typed, e-mail, IBM or Mac to: Anne McCormack, 587 Andrews, St. Louis MO 63122-5722 or amccormack@stjosephacad.org ☘

Weekend Botany Walks

Now that spring is just around the corner and wildflowers will soon be in bloom, put these two dates on your calendar: Sunday, March 30 and Saturday, April 19. Jack Harris will lead a spring botany walk on each of those dates.

Sunday, March 30. 9:00 AM Young Conservation Area (Jefferson County). A one-two mile hike, mostly off trail, along stream bottom and riparian areas. Objective: search for early blooming wild flowers - the widely varying blues of hepatica, yellow corydalis, harbinger-of-spring, white trout lily, and more. Directions: West on I-44 to Eureka (exit 264). Then south on Hwy. W for 2 miles to Hwy. FF. Turn right (west) on Hwy. FF and drive 2.7 miles. Watch for parking area sign on your left.

Saturday, April 19. 9:30 AM St. Francois State Park (St. Francois County). A one-two mile hike over unimproved trail along Big River flood plain and up the bluff to the uplands. Objective: search for numerous bluebells, several species of violets, papaw, trillium, celandine poppy and more. Directions: Drive south on I-55 to Hwy. 67 (exit 174). Go west/south on Hwy. 67 for 18.9 miles to the state park entrance on left. Watch for State Park signs. Continue through the park on the main entrance road to the RV camping area on the Big River. Meet at the auto parking area near the showers and restrooms at the RV camping area. ☘

Nature Notes from Krakow September

Nels Holmberg

From the dilapidated recliner on the front porch (authentic farmhouses need at least one recliner and one major appliance on the front porch), I note the fence separating the sheep pasture from the yard (which is also used as sheep pasture) is overgrown with poke weed (*Phytolaca americana*). For several years we tried to keep it under control. It develops a thick, fibrous taproot, can grow 6 ft. tall and produce a profusion of messy purple fruit. One spring, while removing dead stems from last summer, I noticed the stems were hollowed out. They had been the over winter quarters of some insect. That fall while sitting in the recliner after a morning of repairing fence, I watched as bluebirds and Yellow-rumped Warblers picked those messy purple fruit. I think I would rather keep messy fence rows. And someday I will find out who lives in their stems. ☘

Menke and Scudder Scholarships

The Menke Scholarship for study at a Missouri institution was awarded to Justin Shew for his project entitled "Spatial Ecology and Habitat Use of the Western Fox Snake at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge." The Menke family decided to fund a second scholarship, and this was awarded to Alejandro Masis for his study entitled, "Effects of Uneven and Even Aged Timber Management on Species Diversity of Fruit-Feeding Butterflies in the Missouri Ozarks."

The Mickey Scudder Scholarship has been awarded to Cintia Cornelius for her study entitled "Reproductive Success and Genetic Structure of Two Endemic Birds of the South-Temperate Rainforest Dispersal and Habitat Limitations in a Fragmented Landscape." ☘

Probable Perceptions

Gary Schimmelpfenig

I had an encounter with nature today, (3-3-03) that provoked me to write this note.

My truck key was in the ignition and I was preparing to leave a full parking lot at the Chesterfield Schnucks when I glimpsed a dark arrow shoot by. The hen Cooper's Hawk was already perched on the edge of the building roof above the supermarket door by the time I stepped back out onto the parking lot. I suspected she was a haggard, (one who has beaten the survival odds and emerged into adult plumage), by the grace and skill with which she pitched up to the roof from a folded wing speed that demanded precisely calculated aerodynamics. My binoculars confirmed her blue-gray back and fine rufous breast barring.

I'm quite familiar with the consciousness of Cooper's Hawks. As a young man, I was a passionate falconer in the rolling sandhill prairies of Nebraska. Only a master falconer, which I was not, with infinite patience and ample time would ever consider working with a Cooper's Hawk. They are high strung and aggressive, at least toward the idea of man and his necessary restrictions as a hunting companion. Such a challenge is unnecessary trouble anyway for if you want to consistently experience the skill of a Cooper's in the chase, simply raise and fly pigeons.

My Birmingham Rollers are athlete birds. One in twenty five will "turn over backward in the air with inconceivable rapidity so as to resemble a spinning ball falling for a distance of twenty to thirty feet." The other twenty-four seldom make the grade. A team of such pigeons all rolling together must be quite a site. I wouldn't know. The best birds I've raised in three decades have fattened countless Cooper's Hawks, for in nature's terms, the fastest, deepest spinners are the most flawed.

The large haggard hen Cooper's Hawk above the grocery store door seemed not to notice the cart-pushing, cell-phoning people bustling by beneath her. Nor did anyone seem to notice when she suddenly fell like a

stone from the roof into one of five small junipers that lined the wall. A dozen startled House Sparrows flew out in every direction while the hawk wove in and out of branches, all the while snatching with lightening reflexes. She failed to score and flew over me to the tree above Blockbuster Video. I watched her preen for a moment, turn and in a flash she was gone. I suspect she knows of other sparrow roosts.

A contrast was most poignant in that moment. Our perception is framed by habit and our habits formed by what we pay attention to. The cart-pushing shoppers were easily aware of vehicles, other people and the traffic flow patterns, but the delicate dance of the bush, sparrow and hawk existed outside ordinary perception. The Cooper's on the other hand, simply saw our accidental bush full of sparrows.

Imagine for a moment that the walls of ordinary human perception were suddenly extended in the majority of the human population, to include empathy and compassion along with a renewed communication with the inner life of the natural world. The genius of diverse cultures could then be harvested toward a more fully realized possible humanity living within a natural world teeming with biodiversity.

What a different world we could form! ☘

Call the 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 Sherry McCowan, 314-664-2381 and press "3" or wait for the prompt. You can also leave a message at the end of the Nature Line recording. ☘

Winter Botanizing

Carl Darigo

With only one weather-caused cancellation, Botany Group Thursday outings continued throughout the winter season, with the following attending one or more times, Father James Sullivan, Adrienne & Paul Biesterfeldt, Marvin Boisseau, Nancy & Wayne Clark, Dorothy Cole, Carl Darigo, Pat & Jack Harris, Nels Holmberg, Del Johnson, Gladys & Ed Kullman, Barb Lawton, Jeannie & Jim Moe, Fran & Tom O'Gorman, Meg Griffin, Suzy & Dick Russell, Pete Seale, Al Seppi, Bob Siemer, Kathy Thiele, James Trager, Betty Walters, Janet & Joe Williamson and Chuck Yates.

December 5, Missouri Botanical Garden—only three people decided to brave ice, sleet and treacherous sidewalks to see the Christmas poinsettia display at Ridgway, and then bask in the warm confines of the Climatron complex buildings.

December 12, Creve Coeur Lake Park, St. Louis County—10 persons turned out on a chilly, cloudy, 40° day to walk a portion of the Dripping Springs Trail, after avoiding the numerous Canada geese near the parking lot. The springs' rock ledges had a nice display of icicles. Several mounds of feathers along the trail indicated that some predator is thankfully reducing the goose population. Only one tiny flower, belonging to Ontario aster (*Aster ontarionis*), was surviving the winter. Jack Harris identified leftover leaves of *Uvularia grandiflora* (large bellflower) and also noted that several small *Taxodium distichum* (bald cypress) trees were gaining footholds along the lake edge. Nels Holmberg spotted the wide, green leaves of *Carex albursina* (white bear sedge), then later found dried plants of *Cyperus erythrorhizos* (redroot flat sedge) and the native barnyard grass (*Echinochloa muricata*). Along the spring branch bank, Nels also saw *Conocephalum conicum*, called great scented liverwort, due to its fragrant aroma. Tiny, white *Faveolus alveolaris* (hexagonal-pored polypore), growing on a dead branch, was pointed out by Bob Siemer; this fungus is named for

the unusually shaped pores on the undersurface.

December 19, Babler State Park, St. Louis County—chilly, 45° temperature and threatened rain held attendance to six, who walked the lowland dead-end road at north end of the park. Notable was the absence of ladies; no one could recall when this phenomenon last occurred. Jack Harris kept the flowering string going with a lonely, scraggly dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*). Winter versions of old friends *Calycanthus floridus* (strawberry shrub) and *Dasistoma macrophylla* (mullein foxglove) were still present along the road. An extensive growth of the invasive, non-native *Celastrus orbiculatus* (oriental bitter-sweet) was observed. While checking buds, Father Sullivan grabbed an apparent tree branch, but quickly let go when the branch turned out to be poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*). Jack came up with *Campylium chrysophyllum*, which he called "green blob" moss, but a better name is curved leaf moss, due to the bent-back leaves. Nels Holmberg discovered the uncommon *Atrichum altecristatum* (high-rib catherinea moss), complete with sporophytes and also found two *Elymus* grasses, *E. villosus* (downy wild rye) and *E. riparius* (streambank wild rye). Wayne Clark's sharp eyes spotted an extremely tiny little-wheel fungus (*Marasmius rotula*); two other interesting fungi observed were the slimy orange jelly (*Dacrymyces palmatus*) and the orange crowded parchment (*Stereum complicatum*), the latter completely covering a long, dead branch.

January 2, Butterfly House, St. Louis County—With last week's trip cancelled due to a 6" snow storm, a 4" snow fall Wednesday night was not encouraging, however, five persons did manage to assemble. Father Sullivan maintained the winter's flowering plant streak, by spotting snow-covered flowers of New England aster (*Aster novae-angliae*) in some shrubbery near the parking lot. He was wearing clergy garb, after trying to officiate at an early morning mass, to which no one came, showing that parishioners may not be as hardy as botanists. The Butterfly

House is a miniature Climatron with many tropical plants hosting the numerous butterflies. Some of the more spectacular butterflies seen were ruby lacewing (*Cethosia bilbis*), also rated as the web-site "Butterfly of the Month," owl (*Cailigo memnon*) with large round "eye" and the shiny blue morpho (*Morpho peleides*). The only moth present was the very large, brown atlas moth (*Attacus atlas*). A variety of brightly colored tropical flowers were observed, including *Calliandra haematocephala* (powder puff tree), "Plant of the Month," with large, red spherical flowers displaying thin, male filaments, blue "vervain-like" spikes of *Stachytarpheta jamaicensis*, white oleander (*Nerium sp.*); pink funnel-shaped flowers of *Brugmansia sp.*, related to our jimson weed and *Aphelandra sp.*'s yellow, cone-shaped blossoms. James Trager pointed out black ants (*Paratrechima bourbonica*), a common pest in warm, moist, enclosed environments and resistant to most insecticides and baits. Drawing attention in the lobby exhibits were two inch long, giant cockroaches (*Blaberus giganteus*).

January 9, Longview Farm Park, St. Louis County—accompanied by a sunny and windy 50°, a large group of 18 converged on this new park, at the request of WGNSS member Adrienne Biesterfeldt, a member of the Town & Country Park Commission, to identify trees for later labeling. New members Pete Seale and Joe Williamson were present, as well as Town & Country alderperson, Patty Wiggins. A total of 21 tree species were identified, with shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*) being dominant. Father Sullivan pointed out pennyroyal (*Hedeoma sp.*), whose dried parts emitted a strong and pleasant minty aroma. His two tests were successfully answered by Kathy Thiele on sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*) and Jack Harris with black oak (*Quercus velutina*). Nels Holmberg counted 318 year rings on a downed, three foot diameter white oak tree (*Quercus alba*), and as the walk was ending came up with one flowering dead nettle (*Lamium pur-*

pureum) plant to maintain the winter's weekly record.

January 16, Missouri Botanical Garden: A forecast six inch snowfall sent 13 faithful to the Garden, but with an abrupt change to flurries only, allowed some walking around the grounds. The Linnean House was filled with white, pink and red *Camellia* blossoms, and even one unusual yellow species, *Camellia chrysantha*. A tea plant illustrated that this commercial product is in the *Camellia* genus, *C. sinensis*. Adrienne Biesterfeldt pointed out mother spleenwort (*Asplenium bulbiferum*), which carries "baby ferns" among its fronds. Green ground cover throughout the house was supplied by tiny leaves of baby's tears, sporting the unwieldy scientific name of *Soleirolia soleirolii*. As the group ventured outdoors, Pat Harris confirmed flowering on Ozark witch hazel (*Hammamelis vernalis*), thus lengthening the winter's record one more week. In the Climatron, Father Sullivan spotted the colorful red and purple flowers of a *Cuphea sp.* plant, then tiny lavender flowers of *C. intriculosa*. Jack Harris commented on a climbing vine, *Dischidia coryllis*, with white flowers and pods very similar to Missouri's angle pod (*Cynanchum laeve*). A large tree, Sachel's abutilon (*Abutilon sachelianum*), was replete with yellow flowers, reminiscent of our velvet leaf (*A. theophrasti*). Near the upper entrance to the Temperate House, was seen a large display of bright, yellow Clanwilliam daisies (*Euryopa pectinatus*).

January 23, Missouri History Museum—another Wednesday snowfall plus zero temperature and minus 15° windchill, drove 11 persons indoors. An unexpected bonus was a plant list of crops grown by 1000 AD mound dwellers: *Polygonum erectum* (erect knotweed), *Iva annua* (marsh elder), *Hordeum pusillum* (little barley), *Helianthus annuus* (common sunflower), *Zea mays* (corn), *Chenopodium berlandieri* (pitseed goosefoot) and *Phalaris caroliniana* (May grass). The last plant is more common in western Missouri, but all of the remainder are well known to botany trippers. An old brewery advertising

display showed barley fruiting heads (*Hordeum vulgare*) and easily recognizable hop leaves and fruits (*Humulus lupulus*). Later during a nice lunch at Meriwether Restaurant overlooking snow-covered Forest Park, the group unanimously voted to consider the two live tulip table decorations as legitimate extensions of our winter flowering plant record.

January 30, Katy Trail State Park, St. Charles County—on a cloudy day which felt much colder than the reported 32°, nine bundled-up persons, including new member Meg Griffin, walked northeast from the Weldon Spring trailhead. Father Sullivan refreshed everyone's memory, describing the difference between fibrous bark of *Vitis aestivalis* (summer grape) and furrowed bark of *Ampelopsis cordata* (raccoon grape). Two of his tests went unchallenged, pecan (*Carya illinoensis*) and tall bellflower (*Campanula americana*); however, Tom O'Gorman correctly identified sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*), but admitted to subterfuge by tracing the twigs back to the tree's telltale white, flaking bark. Many black raspberry (*Rubus occidentalis*) vines with whitish haze were observed along the trail; Jeannie Moe found a nice growth of common dodder (*Cuscuta gronovii*) tangled on one vine. Kathy Thiele spotted dried fruits of wild yam (*Dioscorea* sp.); Father Sullivan explained that this genus is a monocot, unrelated to the common sweet potato, the dicot, *Ipomoea*. The season's first bug was seen, a bright green, very cold, stink bug, of the *Pentatomid* family. Jeannie continued the winter's record, by finding several frozen, but flowering dandelions (*Taraxacum officinale*).

February 6, Queeny Park, St. Louis County—a continuing snowfall, which fortunately mostly melted due to slightly-above freezing temperature, didn't deter seven faithful from traversing the Lake Trail, east of the Visitor Center. Father Sullivan warmed the day with numerous tests; successful answers were ginkgo tree (*Ginkgo biloba*) by Tom O'Gorman and Jack Harris, white pine (*Pinus strobus*) by Adrienne Bi-

esterfeldt and Jack, and Bradford pear (*Pyrus calleryana*) by Tom. However, elephant's foot (*Elephantopus carolinanus*) with three bracts supporting the seed heads, red mulberry (*Morus rubra*) with rimmed leaf scars, and chinquapin oak (*Quercus muehlenbergii*) whose buds are whitish but not hairy, all had no takers. Jack examined an alder (*Alnus* sp.) tree carefully, but concluded that the male catkins could not quite qualify as "flowers," so the winter's weekly record finally expired. A heated restroom half-way along the trail was a luxury not usually found on a botany trip.

February 13, Missouri Botanical Garden—on a rather pleasant, late winter day, 14 people assembled to take advantage of the special "behind the scenes" greenhouse and orchid show tour. Prior to the tour, the group checked out numerous, enormous (5 ft x 4 ft) nature paintings on exhibit in the 2nd floor hall. Amid gigantic beetles, birds, critters and fungi, several Missouri plants could easily be seen, some of which were smooth beard tongue (*Penstemon digitalis*), Philadelphia fleabane (*Erigeron philadelphicus*), smooth spiderwort (*Tradescantia ohioensis*), columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*), Ohio horse mint (*Blephilia ciliata*), pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*), Kentucky coffee tree pods (*Gymnocladus dioica*) and Osage orange fruits (*Maclura pomifera*). During a short stroll outside, numerous flowering witch hazels (*Hamamelis* sp.) were seen. Father Sullivan spotted blooming snow drops (*Galanthus elwesii*) and nearby found large acorns fallen from a swamp chestnut oak tree (*Quercus michauxii*). A sign commemorated Robert Fortune, who collected plants in China for Queen Victoria; the ubiquitous wintercreeper vine (*Euonymus fortunei*) was undoubtedly his legacy.

February 20, Pea Ridge Conservation Area, Washington County—a day starting with heavy fog and trees iced with frost, plus a 50° forecast which never materialized, greeted six people making the 80 mile, annual witch-hazel trip. The Ozark witch-hazel (*Hamamelis vernalis*) was in bloom, but the

pleasant aroma was somewhat subdued, probably due to the heavy frost. Father Sullivan's test of dried plants growing on the gravel bar, *Trichostema brachiatum* (false pennyroyal), went unanswered. Jack Harris found the native water hemlock (*Cicuta maculata*), as well as cowbane (*Oxypolis rigidior*), growing at the creek edge. Gladys Kullman spotted rubbery orange jelly fungus (*Tremella mesenterica*), attached to a sandbar willow (*Salix exigua*) branch. Red branches on shrubs across the snow-melt filled Indian Creek were tempting, but even Nels Holmberg declined the crossing; similar branches found later were swamp dogwood (*Cornus amomum*). Along the campground road were seen dried plants of ashy sunflower (*Helianthus mollis*), shrubby St. John's wort (*Hypericum prolificum*) and sweet everlasting (*Gnaphalium obtusifolium*). Jack found a large field of ebony spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*) and later correctly answered a test on dried fruits of hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*). Nels successfully answered tests on trumpet creeper fruits (*Campsis radicans*) and wild bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*), then from a dead log came up with *Drummondia prorepens* (barbed wire moss), whose common name is derived from the tufted habit. After observing a *Cornus florida* (flowering dogwood) tree, Father Sullivan explained that the species name "florida" refers to "flowering," not the state of Florida.

February 27, Katy Trail State Park, St. Charles County—25° and an impending 5" snow forecast did not keep eight persons from exploring the partially-snow covered trail southwest from the St. Charles river-front trailhead. Oblivious to any botanical activity, the nearby casino seemed to be attracting the normal influx of cars and buses. Kathy Thiele spotted the long, skinny fruits of *Catalpa sp.*, commonly called "lady cigars," perhaps due to some mis-guided historical attempts for use as smoking material. Small patches of native *Setaria parviflora* (knotroot foxtail) were seen along the path. Father Sullivan had no takers on an American elm (*Ulmus americana*) test, and later identified

several cornelian cherry dogwood (*Cornus mas*) shrubs, on which Jeannie Moe had observed yellowish-brown flower buds. This landscaping plant normally flowers in early March, producing bright, red fruits which are edible and used in syrups and preserves. Several native swamp white oak (*Quercus bicolor*) trees had been planted along the casino parking lot, a nice addition to nearby huge African grass clumps; Jim Moe found acorns with long stems, as predicted by Father Sullivan. Near the tunnel below the busy casino entrance road, Jack Harris found small patches of *Bryum argenteum* (silver moss), whose whitish appearance is caused by hyaline leaf tips. ♡

February 2003 Bird Report

Jim Ziebol & Yvonne Homeyer

BCA = Busch Wildlife Area

CL = Carlyle Lake

FP = Forest Park

HL = Horseshoe Lake

LCCL = Little Creve Coeur Lake

LVT = Lost Valley Trail

MTC = Marais Temps Clair

REDA = Riverlands Environmental Demonstration Area

TGP = Tower Grove Park

Sightings: David Becher reporter a Horned Grebe and a Redhead at CL on 2/23. The Thursday Group's visit to Creve Coeur Lake on 2/27 produced a Horned Grebe, Common and Hooded Mergansers, and several other duck species (JC et al.). White Pelicans were seen at REDA on 2/20 (FH). There were hundreds of Pelicans at REDA on 2/22 (DB & Sat. Group). On 2/22, 2 Great Egrets were seen at Dresser Island (J&CM). The Malones observed 7 Sandhill Cranes in Ste. Genevieve County on 2/2. Also on 2/2, the WGNSS group counted 31 Trumpeter Swans, 1 Tundra Swan, 1 Glaucous Gull, 1 Lesser Black-backed Gull, 1 Peregrine Falcon, 66 Bald Eagles, and a few Green-winged Teal (MT et al.). On 2/2, Frank Holmes had a Trumpeter Swan at HL (neck-band was from Iowa). The WGNSS Group visiting Baldwin Lake on Feb. 8 counted 12,000 (est.) Snow Geese, 25 Greater White-fronted Geese, and 1 Ross's Goose (DB, MT et al.). Greater White-fronted Geese were also reported at HL during the

last half of February (FH). The Barkers observed a Wood Duck on 2/11 on Hwy. 143 and a Wigeon at REDA on 2/13. Connie Alwood found a Long-tailed Duck at HL on 22 and 2 Long-tailed Ducks at REDA on 2/10; the REDA Long-tailed Ducks were seen again on 2/22 (G&TB) and 2/28 (CM). High counts of ducks included 150 Pintails on 2/18 at HL (FH), 750 Canvasbacks on 2/23 at HL (FH), 400 Pintails at 2 Rivers NWR (CA), and 350 Ring-necked Ducks on 2/2 at HL (FH). Several first-winter Thayer's, 3 adult Lesser Black-backed, 1 first-winter & 1 adult Glaucous Gull were seen in the area by many observers. Bill Rowe and David Rogles found a Franklin's Gull (a very good find). On 2/23, Joe Eades observed 2 immature Great Black-backed & first-winter Iceland Gull at REDA. Charlene Malone found a first-winter Great Black-backed Gull, a first-winter Iceland Gull, an adult Lesser Black-backed Gull, three first-winter and one adult Thayer's Gulls, a Glaucous Gull, and a Peregrine Falcon on the bridge, at REDA on 2/28.

The Malones were the first to report Woodcocks, on 2/21 at BCA. A Turkey Vulture was seen in Madison Co., IL on 2/3 (FH). On 2/3 and again on 2/9, Frank Holmes saw a N. Goshawk on Bend Rd. at HL; also on 2/9, he observed a Cooper's and a Sharpie. Jurek Majka reported that the female Merlin was seen again at Lakewood Park Cemetery on 2/28. Three Eurasian Collared Doves were seen in Ste. Genevieve County on 2/2 (J&CM). At BCA on 2/9, a Barred Owl, 2 Great Horned Owls and a Sharpie were found (JU). Several Golden-crowned Kinglets and 1 Brown Creeper were reported at HL on 2/1 (FH). Connie Alwood found a Loggerhead Shrike off IL-Hwy. 140 on 2/1. On 2/9, Mike Brady observed an "Audubon's" Yellow-rumped Warbler and a Brown Thrasher on the Katy Trail. On 2/26, there was a Field Sparrow at HL and several Lapland Longspurs on School House Road near HL (FH). Sherry McCowan found a flock of about 100 Juncoes at TGP in mid-February.

A typical day at Castlewood on 2/24, as reported by Mike Brady, included Bluebirds,

several Hermit Thrushes, Pileated, Downy, Hairy and Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Flicker, Golden-crowned Kinglets, Brown Creepers, 2 Brown Thrashers, Yellow-rumped Warblers, 2 Bald Eagles, a Red-shouldered Hawk, a Cooper's Hawk and Kingfishers calling along the river (and 2 coyotes eating a deer).

Comments: Good back yard birds for the month: Margy Terpstra saw 23 species on 2/16 & 2/17, including a female Purple Finch and Great Horned Owl; on 2/25, she had a Hermit Thrush and saw an adult Cooper's Hawk dining on a Mourning Dove. Kathy Thiele reported a "yellow-orange" variant of House Finch on 2/17. A flock of approximately 300 Robins was seen near Mike Thelen's home in University City at the end of the month. Josh Uffman saw Barred and Screech Owls in his yard. Dennis Bozzay reported a few Pine Siskins and a Purple Finch. Near Union, MO, Cheryl and Don Delashmit had a Harris's Sparrow and a Brown Thrasher for most of the month. The Barkers saw a Hairy Woodpecker at their home. Lastly, a very late but interesting report – on 12/25/01, a White-winged Crossbill* visited the feeder of Jurek Majka, who lives adjacent to Lakewood Park Cemetery (where the Merlin hung out this winter – see above).

Contributors: Connie Alwood, George & Terry Barker, David Becher, Mike Brady, Jackie Chain, Cheryl & Don Delashmit, Joe Eades, Frank Holmes, Jurek Majka, Jim & Charlene Malone, Sherry McCowan, David Rogles, Bill Rowe, Margy Terpstra, Mike Thelen, Josh Uffman. An asterisk means "documented." Please submit sightings by the last day of the month to Jim Ziebol (314-781-7372) or Yvonne Homeyer <homeyer@earthlink.net> ☞.

April 2003 Conservation Report

Yvonne Homeyer

Proposed cement plant. In a positive development at the federal level, the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency has written the Corps of Engineers office in St. Louis telling the Corps that it should prepare an Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed cement plant project. To date, the Corps has not made a decision on Holcim's application for a 404 permit, which is needed when federally protected wetlands would be destroyed, or whether it will prepare an EIS as requested by the EPA.

At the state level, the Land Reclamation (mining) Commission, part of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, held a hearing in Jefferson City in February on Holcim's application for an unprecedented 100-year quarry, spanning about 1300 acres.

WGNSS and 3 other organizations, represented by the Environmental Law Clinic, raised constitutional objections to the mining statute, which was amended in 2001. Because Holcim challenged our right to participate in the application process (a legal rule called "standing"), we presented evidence related to the standing issue. Two WGNSS members living near the Holcim site, Nancy Havicon and Ken Foerstel, testified, as did Yvonne Homeyer. The Hearing Officer ruled that WGNSS does have standing, but the final decision is up to the Land Reclamation Commission. We expect their decision in late May.

Surprising conclusions on causes of bird deaths during West Nile Virus outbreak.

Data released from the National Audubon Society, in cooperation with a New York State employee involved in testing dead birds during the West Nile Virus outbreak in 2000, revealed that many of the birds died from pesticide poisoning, not West Nile Virus. Of the dead birds tested, only 31% actually tested positive for West Nile Virus, and not all the birds that tested positive died from the disease. Pesticides and other chemicals were responsible for killing 48% of the birds tested! Causes of death related to pesti-

cides included commonly used rodenticides and lawn-care chemicals. Carbofuran, a tightly regulated poison, caused the death of some birds in Brooklyn – indicating that the use of dangerous pesticides is not as restricted as we would believe. Although DDT has been banned for years, it showed up in the test results, presumably from contaminated soil. Lead poisoning killed some of the waterbirds. So the next time we see a dead crow or bluejay in our back yard, we should not automatically assume that it died of West Nile Virus. Only a lab test could determine the true cause of death, and poisoning from pesticides or chemicals could just as easily have been responsible for killing the bird.

When I talked with St. Louis County Vector Control last year, I was told that the County had not done any testing of even a single dead bird, despite the large number of birds that were turned in to health officials. Pesticide spraying is a priority, testing is not.

Monarchs rebound. After severe population losses from a bad storm in January 2002, the Monarchs had a successful breeding season this past summer and have returned to their overwintering forests in Mexico in almost-normal numbers, based on average population density records from the last few years. The bad news is that habitat loss in the form of illegal logging continues, despite efforts by the Mexican government and organizations such as World Wildlife Fund. Illegal logging not only destroys the overwintering sites but also thins the forest canopy, thereby exposing the Monarchs to the winter cold, snow and rain. Should another winter disaster be followed by a bad (dry) summer, the Monarchs would not be able to recover as well as they did this year. ♡



Migratory Birds and the Spread of West Nile

Science, Vol. 299, No. 5608, 7 February 2003.

Letters to the Editor, p. 821

We read with substantial apprehension the News Focus article on the spread of West Nile Virus (WNV) across the United States and its concomitant decimation of bird populations ("West Nile's surprisingly swift continental sweep," M. Enserink, 20 Sept., p. 1988; and sidebar "Bird advocates fear that West Nile virus could silence the spring," D. Malakoff, p. 1989). Many of the survivors among these populations are very likely to spread WNV throughout the Neotropics in this northern winter, if they have not already done so during the last several winters. It is particularly ominous that our observations of scores of species of small northern migrants (e.g., warblers and thrushes) this January in the Area de Conservacion Guanacaste in northwestern Costa Rica (1) suggest that there is a precipitous decline in their abundance compared with previous years. Parallel observations from other Neotropical continental areas would be opportune, as well as from the Caribbean, as mentioned in the sidebar by Malakoff. This apparent decline in Costa Rica could well be due to fewer migrants arriving, virus-based death in transit or on the wintering grounds, or even disproportionately harsh predation by resident predators accustomed to preying on abundant migrants. Our ongoing inventory of the internal parasites of these migrants and their sympatric residents (2) hopefully will indicate whether WNV has arrived as we expect and is spreading [however, there are no recorded cases of WNV in Costa Rica at this time (3)], and whether the apparent severe reduction in northern migrants is indeed a persistent phenomenon. If this is the case, the impact of such a multispecies epidemic on these species-rich and interaction-rich tropical communities will be another dramatic and sad example of the way in which unanticipated consequences of human activity have harmed the wildland tropics.

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References and Notes

1. See www.acguanacaste.ac.cr.
2. See <http://brooksweb.zoo.utoronto.ca>.
3. R. Saenz, Costa Rican Minister of Health, personal communication.

✉

May 10 Is North American Migration Count Day

Yvonne Homeyer

Every May, birders throughout the United States are engaged in a massive Count to monitor bird populations at a time when the Neotropical migrants have returned from their wintering grounds. Sponsored by Partners in Flight, the North American Migration Count will take place on Sat., May 10. This count is the springtime equivalent of the Christmas Bird Count.

In previous years a limited number of locations in the St. Louis area have been surveyed but this year WGNSS and St. Louis Audubon Society are working together to expand the number of locations counted and the number of birders participating in the Count. Present count areas include Busch Wildlife, Weldon Springs Conservation Area, Riverlands, Marais Temps Clair, Tower Grove Park, Forest Park, Carondelet Park, Babler State Park, and Route 66 Park. If we have sufficient volunteers, we hope to add Castlewood State Park, Little Creve Coeur Lake, Creve Coeur Lake, Rockwoods, Tyson Research Center, Forest 44, and Spanish Lake Park. In order to cover these areas well, many participants are needed. Each count location will have a count leader who will organize the territory. Beginners are welcome. To volunteer, contact any of the following individuals: Paul Bauer, (314) 921-3972 (compiler, St. Charles County); Zoe Geist, (636) 467-5030 (compiler, St. Louis County); Yvonne Homeyer, (314) 963-7750, homeyer@earthlink.net (compiler, City of St. Louis); Sue Gustafson, (314) 968-9128, (coordinator, International Migratory Bird Week); or David Rogles, suneska@excite.com (state-wide compiler). Sign-up sheets will also be available at the April 11 Heritage Night meeting and the May 1st Banquet. ♡

Nature Workshops Offered by SLCC Meramec

To register:

Register by phone with a credit card at 314-984-7777, or fax 984-7960, or mail to SLCC Continuing Ed., 11333 Big Bend Blvd. 63122, on on-line at <www.stlcc.edu>. For more description, call MCC or see Nature Notes, March '03.

Beyond Backyard Birding Biol 722 600

Tues. April 8 and 15 7-9 PM. Field trip Sat. April 26, 7 AM, sponsored by WGNSS. \$31.

Exploring Spring Night Skies Biol 726

600 Wed. April 16 and 23, from 7-9:30 PM. Field trip Fri., April 25, sponsored by St. Louis Astronomical Society. Fee \$28.

Identification of Spring Birds by Sight and Sound Biol 709 600

April 24 and May 1 from 7:00-9:00 PM, field trip Sat. 5/3, sponsored by St. L. Audubon Society. Fee \$42.

Local Butterflies: Habits and Habitats Biol 715 600

Tues. 6:30-8:30 March 25 and April 1, field trip Sat. April 26 10 AM-1 PM, sponsored by North American Butterfly Association. Fee \$24.50.

Missouri Glades: Ecology & Plants Biol 704 600

Tues., April 29 7-9:30 PM Three field trips on Sat: Kercherside Mt. CA May 10, 10 AM-2, 5/17 to Victoria Glade 9 AM-noon, and Hawn SP, May 24 10-2. Taught by Pat and Jack Harris. Fee \$48.

Spring Amphibians Biol 712 600

Wed. March 19, 26, April 2 from 6:30-10:00 PM Two field trips March 22 and April 5. Fee \$70.

Missouri Native Plants Hort 720 690

Fri. April 25 from 9 AM-1 Fee \$12 Taught by Nels Holmberg, at Babler State Pk.

Butterfly Gardening with Native Plants Hort 720 600

Wed. March 19 7-9 PM Fee \$6 Presented by NA Butterfly Assoc. ♡

Science Seminars from St. Louis Zoo & Academy of Science

All seminars will be held in the Living World (north side of Zoo, free parking in north lot) Wednesday evenings, 7:30-9:00 PM. Free — making science accessible to all people. Co-sponsored by the Saint L. Zoo and the Academy of Science of St. Louis.

April 9 "Mad Cow Disease: Cool Science behind a Hot Topic," Gregg Bogosian. ☼



Key to WGNSS Calendar

birding field trip

each Thurs. 8:30 AM— call Jackie Chain 314-664-5998

most Sat. 8 AM (not June or July):
call David Becher 314-576-1146

most Sundays: call Kent Lannert 618-624-4464

summary of the latest bird sightings

Call Tyson Nature Line: 314-935-8432

to report a bird sighting

To include a sighting on the "Nature Line" phone message, call Sherry McCowan, 314-664-2381.

To submit a report to the *Nature Notes* bird column, call Jim Ziebol at 314-781-7372 or email Yvonne at homeyer@earthlink.net by the last day of the month.

board meeting

1st Wed. 7 PM Sept.-May at Powder Valley:
Yvonne Homeyer 314-963-7750

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

Call the 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 Sherry McCowan, 314-664-2381 and press "3" or wait for the prompt. You can also leave a message at the end of the Nature Line recording. ☼

Nature Notes Deadlines & Mailings

Oak Bend Library, 842 S. Holmes Kirkwood

mailing party

Mon. 4/21 10-1

Mon. 5/19 10-1

Mon. 8/18 ? Fri. 8/8

Mon. 9/15 10-1

Mon. 10/20 10-1

Mon. 11/17 10-1

Mon. 12/15 10-1

NN deadline

Fri. 4/11

Fri. 3/7

Fri. 9/5

Fri. 10/10

Fri. 11/7

Fri. 12/5

general meeting

7:00 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

Thursday May 1 at Eden Seminary in

Webster. Pat McCormick 636-225-0264

Big Day birding competition May 10

Nature Notes deadlines

10 days prior to 3rd Mon: call Anne

McCormack 314-965-8091

amccormack@stjosephacad.org

membership expires/renewal due

Aug. 31

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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.

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www.wgnss.org

WEBSTER GROVES NATURE STUDY SOCIETY

Call 314-935-8432 for a summary of the latest bird sightings in the St. Louis area.



MEETINGS

Wednesday April 2

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

Friday April 11

WGNSS Heritage Night! Creve Coeur Com. Center, 300 N. New Ballas Road—east side of Ballas between Olive and Ladue. Talks by veteran members, a display of pictures of past WGNSS activities. Bring along any picture or other artifacts that you'd like to display.

Thursday May 1

7 PM Annual Banquet at Eden Commons, Lockwood and Bompert in Webster. Social hour will begin at 6 PM with a buffet served at 6:45. Register by April 25.



BOTANY

Thursday 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 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

Sunday March 30

9 AM at Hilda Young Cons. Area. One-two-mile hike. I-44 to Eureka, south on W for 2 mi. to west on FF for 2.7 mi.

Saturday April 19

9:30 AM St. Francois SP. One-two-mile hike. I-55 to west/south on 67 for 18.9 mi. Meet at parking area near showers in RV camping.

JOIN WGNSS

Send \$20 to Randy Korotev, 800 Oakbrook Ln., St. Louis MO 63132

Nature Notes deadline April 11

www.wgnss.org



ENTOMOLOGY

Sunday March 30

7 PM at Magners' 516 Bacon Ave., Webster, 314-961-4588. Another of this year's frequent snowstorms influenced attendance. Phil Koenig has graciously agreed to repeat his report on "The Status of Duke's Skipper in Missouri."

Sunday April 27

7 PM at Magners' above. Topic to be announced.



BIRDING

Thursdays March–April

8:30 AM Des Peres Park on Ballas, one block n. of Manchester. Questions: call Jackie Chain, 314-644-5998.

Saturdays March 22, 29, April 5

8 AM WGNSS "Where the Birds Are." Parking lot of HQ of Co. Library, Lindbergh, south of 40. Meet on N side. Bring lunch. David Becher 314-576-1146.

Sunday March 23

8 AM at Horseshoe Lk, Rt. 111 side, with John & Nancy Solodar, meet at first pavilion at end of causeway.

Sunday March 30

8 AM with St L Audubon, Castlewood SP.

Thurs.–Sun. April 10–12

St. L Audubon Prairie Chicken trip. Call Jim Malone 1-636-536-1119 to register.

Sunday April 6

4 AM with St L Aud., Woodcock/Owl

Saturday April 12

8 AM Busch, meet at Ahden Knight Hampton Lk. D. Becher 576-1146.

Sunday April 13

8 AM Bird walk at Carlyle Lake, Ill. Meet at Carlyle McDonald's. Dan Kassebaum.

Saturday April 19 & 26

8 AM Tower Grove Pk., meet at first picnic spot west of stables. D. Becher above.

Sunday April 20

7 AM at Busch HQ with Joe Eades.

Sunday April 27

8 AM at parking lot at Lost Valley (Busch) with Nancy and Dale Delaney.

Saturday May 3

8 AM Castlewood State Park. Meet near boat launch. D. Becher 576-1146.

Sunday May 4

7:30 AM Tower Grove w/St. L Audubon. Meet at Bird Garden, NW corner of Pk.

Saturday May 10

Big Day! Also, North American Migration Count Day. To volunteer, contact one of our members listed on p. 13.

Sunday May 11

7:30 AM Forest Pk. w/St. L Audubon. Meet at Kennedy Forest, near Zoo.

Saturday May 17

8 AM Grey Summit Arboretum (Shaw Nature Reserve). Meet at entrance to Brush Creek Trail. Bring lunch. D. Becher 576-1146.

Sunday May 18

8 AM Forest Pk. Meet at Kennedy Forest, parking lot off Wells Dr., with Randy Korotev.

Saturday May 24

8 AM WGNSS "Where the Birds Are." Parking lot of HQ of Co. Library, Lindbergh, south of 40. Meet on N side. Bring lunch. David Becher 314-576-1146.

Sunday May 25 and June 22

7 AM Riverlands. Meet at Teal Pond, with Bill Rowe. 6/22 with Keith McMullen.

Sunday June 1

8 AM Tower Grove, meet at Bird Garden, with Kent Lannert.

Sunday June 8

8 AM Busch Wildlife A., meet at HQ, with Anne McCormack.

Sunday July 27

8 AM Horseshoe Lake, meet at pavilion at end of causeway, with Frank Holmes.

Plants available for WGNSS plant sale at May 1 Banquet

***Agastache x 'Red Fortune'* Anise Hyssop**

sun to part shade red perennial
2-3' tall July-Oct.
Prefers hot, dry. Fragrant foliage. Originates in Mexico & Ariz. Hardier than many *Agastaches*.

***Aquilegia canadensis* Wild Columbine**

shade to p sun red & yellow perennial
18" tall, space 12" late spring
Prefers sandy soil, good drainage, humus. Will self-sow. Divide in spring.

***Amorpha canescens* Lead Plant**

sun purple & orange perennial
1-3' tall July
6" bloom spike. Tolerates dry soil. Host plant for Dog Face Butterfly, Eastern Tailed Blue, and Silver-spotted Skipper.

***Aristolochia durior* Dutchman's Pipe**

sun to part sun perennial vine
20'-30' tall May/June
Thrives in rich soil. Strange pipe-shaped flower, heart-shaped leaves. Host to Pipe-vine Swallowtail larvae. Mo. native.

***Asclepias tuberosa* Butterfly Weed**

sun to part shade orange perennial
1 1/2'-3' tall space 18" June/July
Thrives in dry, sandy soil. Nectar plant for butterflies—Silver-spotted Skipper, Monarch, Checkered White, and more—as well as host to Monarch larvae.

***Buddleia davidii* 'Petite Purple'**

Butterfly Bush

sun purple perennial
2-3' tall July-Oct.
Blue-gray narrow leaves. Some folks recommend pruning to ground in spring.

Echinacea purpurea

Purple Coneflower

sun to part shade purple perennial
3' tall July-Oct.
Popular with butterflies when in bloom and with birds when the seeds mature.

***Liatris pycnostachya* Prairie Blazingstar**

sun to part shade purple perennial
3-6' tall July-Aug.
Easy to grow in average-medium wet soil. Profuse, late summer bloom.

***Lobelia cardinalis* Cardinal Flower**

part shade to p sun scarlet perennial
2-4' tall July-Aug.
Best in moist soil. Mulch year round. May be short-lived. Will self-sow. Nectar plant for hummers and Red-spotted Purple and Spicebush Swallowtail butterfly.

***Lobelia siphilitica* Great Blue Lobelia**

part sun blue perennial
Best in moist soil. An unattractive specific name, but a gorgeous plant. Mo. native. Nectar plant for many butterflies.

***Monarda* 'Jacob Cline' Bee Balm**

sun to part shade red perennial
3-4' tall June-Aug.
Mildew is a problem with *Monarda*, but this is the most resistant variety. Average to moist soil.

***Rudbeckia fulgida* 'Goldsturm' Black-eyed Susan**

sun to part shade yellow perennial
2' tall July-Oct.
Drought tolerant. 1999 Perennial Plant of the Year. Popular with butterflies when in bloom and with birds when the seeds mature. Host plant for Gorgone Checkerspot.

***Salvia elegans* Pineapple sage**

sun-p shade vermilion red annual
2-3' tall early fall till hard frost
Pineapple-scented foliage. A knockout! Easy to grow. Bloom triggered by short day length.

***Salvia leucantha* Mexican sage**

sun to part shade indigo & wt annual
5' tall late Aug.-Oct.
Tall and shrubby. Easy to grow, average garden soil. Careful when transplanting—stems are brittle. See *Nature Notes*, March, 2003.

Scabiosa 'Butterfly Blue' Pincushion Flower

sun blue perennial
 12-18" tall, space 15"
 Perennial Plant of the Year 2000. Easy to grow, long-flowering, average garden soil; prefers warm weather.

Verbena canadensis Rose Verbena

sun purple/pink perennial
 6" groundcover

Needs good drainage. Missouri native. Nectar plant and host of Common Buck-eye larvae.

Verbesina alternifolia Wingstem

part sun/p shade yellow perennial
 4-5' tall perennial
 Prefers moist shade.

Vernonia fasciculata Ironweed

sun purple perennial
 3-6' tall Aug.-Sept.
 Medium to wet soil. Missouri native.

Plant Order Form

Please use the order form below to order your plants, to be received and paid for at the Spring Banquet, May 1, Eden Seminary. Our plants are supplied by one of the area's top wholesalers, Bowood Farms. Their Missouri native plants are derived from seed collected in our area. Please understand that weather conditions may cause crop failure. It is possible that not all of these will be available, or that the plant may not be available in the size that you order. For that reason, we will total your order and take your cash/check at the banquet, not now.

Pat McCormick and Anne McCormack will place WGNSS's complete order with Bowood, so we need to receive your order no later than April 4. Please mail to:

Pat McCormick
 1338 Eaglebrooke Ct.
 Ballwin, MO 63021

Name _____ phone _____

	common name	plant	size	c\$	how many
<input type="checkbox"/>	Anise Hyssop	Agastache x 'Red Fortune'	1 gal	6	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Leadplant	Amorpha canescens	1 qt	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Columbine	Aquilegia canadensis	1 qt	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pipevine	Aristolochia d	1 gal	8	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Butterflyweed	Asclepias tuberosa	1 qt	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Butterfly Bush	Buddleia 'Petite Purple'	1 gal	6	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Purple Coneflower	Echinacea purpurea	1 qt	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Blazing Star	Liatris pycnostachya	1 qt	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cardinal flower	Lobelia cardinalis	1 qt	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Blue Lobelia	Lobelia siphilitica	1 qt	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bee Balm	Monarda 'Jacob Cline' red	1 gal	6	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bk-eyed Susan	Rudbeckia f 'Goldsturm'	2 qt	4	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pineapple Sage	Salvia elegans	2.5'	1	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pincushion Flwr	Scabiosa 'Butterfly Blue'	2 qt	4	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wingstem	Verbesina alternifolia	1 qt	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ironweed	Vernonia fasciculata	1 qt	3	

WEBSTER GROVES NATURE STUDY SOCIETY

PO Box 190065
St. Louis MO 63119

Non-profit Org.

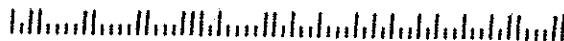
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Paul Neuhoff
342 S Maple Ave
Saint Louis MO 63119-3824

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WEBSTER GROVES NATURE STUDY SOCIETY

Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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

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

www.wgnss.org

Membership categories (circle one):

Individual or Household:.....\$20
for 1st class mailadd \$8
Student.....\$10

Please mail this form with check to:

Treasurer: Randy Korotev,
800 Oakbrook Ln., St. Louis MO 63132
Please make check payable to: Webster
Groves Nature Study Society

