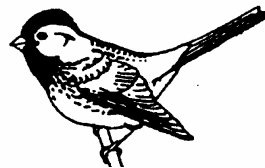


wingbeat



Burroughs Audubon

Volume 55 Issue 4

October-November 2003

General Meetings

**General meetings begin at 7:00 p.m.
Conservation meetings precede at 6:30 p.m.**

When? The first Thursday of each month. Cookies and coffee start at 6:30 p.m.

Where? Missouri Department of Conservation Discovery Center
4750 Troost
K.C. MO

NOVEMBER 6 "Birding the Midwest" Ed McCullough tells us tips in digital photography and where to go birding in our area. A knowledgeable birder reveals his secrets!

DECEMBER 4 "Birding ID Workshop" Roger McNeill will give us pointers and tips on how to recognize certain species of ducks and raptors. Come listen to one of KC's best birders!

All Audubon members who are interested are invited to meet and eat with the speakers before the meeting at:

PRI NCESS GARDENS, 89th & WORNALL, KCMO, AT

5:30 PM. Please call Marilyn Koshland to make reservations: 816-537-5988.



Burroughs 2003 Annual Seed Sale

Don't miss this annual fundraiser for Burroughs. It's our annual seed sale to be held on Saturday, November 8 from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm.

Choose from 8 different types of bird seed, in bags of various sizes. For more details and a pre-order form, please see the insert inside this newsletter. You can also download the flyer and pre-order from our website at www.burroughs.org.

BURROUGHS 2003 SEED SALE

SAT, NOVEMBER 8, 2003
10:00 AM—4:30 PM

LOCATIONS

Ward Parkway Mall
Kansas City, MO

Rosana Square Shopping Center
Overland Park, KS

Burroughs Nature Center
Fleming Park, Blue Springs, MO

wingbeat is a bimonthly publication of the Burroughs Audubon Society of Greater Kansas City. BAS has over 2500 members in the Kansas City area who share an interest in birding and our natural heritage and wish to preserve and enhance it for future generations. Our members share and promote this interest through a variety of activities that are open to the public.

From the President's Nest



In the last issue, I discussed changes that are in the process of being implemented with regards to our newsletter. Since this is such an important subject, I going to repeat most of the same information in this month's article.

If you have any questions about the new newsletter opt-in program, please contact any of the board members. **Please see the form on page 3 in order to OPT-IN and keep everything the same about the delivery of your copy of wingbeat.**

Due to changes in the way that the National Audubon organization works with the local chapters, Burroughs will have to make some adjustments in its policies and strategies as well. For many years, Burroughs has received a \$5.50/member "Dues Share" from National each year, which is supposed to help pay for some of the services that Burroughs provides to the local members, such as the newsletter. This Dues Share is in the process of being eliminated.

This represents approximately 25% of our past annual budgets. The Dues Share changes are being put in place by National to reflect the change in the way that they recruit members, and to reflect the investment that National has made at the state level organizations, which has been significant. While we understand and agree with these changes, it doesn't change the fact that we can't keep operating in the same fashion with this drop in yearly revenue. Other chapters in the region have addressed this and other changes in a variety of different ways, including eliminating their newsletter in its entirety.

continued on page 6

Burroughs Audubon Officers

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ed@mcculloughweb.com

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Historian:

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Speakers Bureau:

Kevin Hogan 816-444-7705

SQUAW CREEK UPDATE



Water levels are still somewhat low at Squaw Creek as the affects of the drought continue to impact the habitat. Construction of the new parking lots and comfort station are almost completed. The asphalt paving of the lots and the auto tour loop from the highway to the observation tower is complete. Finish and cleanup work are

still to be completed, but over 50 people at once in the things are looking very good. new auditorium, FOSC has The new comfort station really been able to demon- has been built, with interior strate the addition's value to finish work left to com- the visitors. pleted. FOSC just funded the re-

The Friends of Squaw Creek (FOSC) held an open house on October 18 to celebrate the final day of National Wildlife Refuge Week and to showcase the auditorium. With recent crowds of

the Callow Memorial Trail at a cost of \$14,000. Funds are also needed to continue the pumping that feeds water into the moist soil units and Eagle Pool.

- Ed McCullough

IMPORTANT INFO; EVERYONE PLEASE READ — NEWSLETTER OPT-IN PROGRAM

WingBeat is now on-line at: www.burroughs.org

The on-line version is freely available to anyone with a computer and internet, can be printed on your printer, and it will appear the same as the mailed version.

In order to continue receiving ALL *Wingbeat* issues by mail, we ask that you reply by mail-in form, or e-mail (heidi@mcculloughweb.com), by November 30, 2003.

After November 30, 2003, Burroughs will mail regular issues only to those who indicate that they wish to receive all *Wingbeat* issues by mail. Special *Wingbeat* issues will continue to be mailed to every member. For more details on this program, please read the *President's Nest* column in this issue, starting on Page 2.

I would like to continue receiving ALL *Wingbeat* issues by mail (please print or write clearly)

Name: _____

Address/City/State/Zip: _____

Mail completed form or a facsimile to:

**Burroughs Audubon Society, c/o Heidi McCullough, 5915 NW Caney Creek Dr.
KC, MO 64151 or e-mail this information to: heidi@mcculloughweb.com**

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

Saturday, November 15. Lyon County (KS) State Lake, Melvern Lake, John Redmond Reservoir with Bob Fisher. Meet at 7:30 AM at the Holiday Inn in Olathe. (Take I-35 to the 151st Street exit. Go right at the 2nd light, then take the next left.) We'll have a good chance of seeing Smith's Longspurs and possibly Long-eared Owls, as well as numerous waterfowl species such as loons and grebes. This is also a good time of year for rarities to show up. This is an all-day trip, so you will probably want to bring a lunch, snacks and drinks or plan to stop at a nearby Casey's. Dress appropriately for the weather and some walking. If you have any questions, please call Bob at 816-358-0208 or by e-mail at bobgfisher@comcast.net.

Saturday, November 22. Marais des Cygne Wildlife Area (Miami and Linn Counties, KS) with Matt Gearheart. We will be looking for migrating waterfowl on several of the conservation area's impoundments. We'll also stop at La Cygne Lake, a man-made, warm water lake which is made so by its role as source of water for the nearby power plant's steam-driven turbines. The water on this lake remains unfrozen throughout the winter and is a virtual waterfowl spa. We will likely drive through the (strip) mined land area south of the power plant to look for open grassland species. Plan to bring lunch and/or snacks for this all-day trip. We'll meet at 7 AM at the McDonald's at 119th Street and Metcalf in Overland Park, KS and carpool to La Cygne. This trip will have minimal walking and is mainly an auto tour. Please call Matt at 913-568-4678 if you have any questions.



Audubon field trip participants usually carpool; riders chip in for gas. Cars leave at the stated departure time. From beginning birders to experts, all are welcome! All-day trips include restroom stops. If you have doubts about whether a field trip is "on" because of inclement weather, call the trip leader up to one hour before scheduled departure. The trip leader can also provide additional details on the trip. To list a trip, contact Jim or Ellen Zellmer at 816-228-3955 or towhee@discovernet.com.

Saturday, December 6. Squaw Creek with Don Arney. Meet at 7 AM at the McDonald's restaurant on I-29 at the Platte City exit. Alternately, you can join the group at approximately 8:15 at the Squaw Creek headquarters parking lot. We will spend the morning on Squaw Creek grounds. This should be a peak time for Snow Geese, waterfowl of all types and Bald Eagles. Dress appropriately for the weather with proper footwear for the season and conditions. Bring a lunch and drinks if you want to continue birding at nearby Bob Brown Conservation Area in the afternoon. For questions or directions, please contact Don at 816-931-8536 or by e-mail at sora@kc.rr.com.

Christmas Bird Counts. This is a reminder that the annual Christmas Bird Counts (CBC.s) will be starting approximately December 13th and will continue through approximately January 10th.

Please watch for the area CBC's to be published on our website at www.burroughs.org. Also stay tuned for further information through the MO-Birds and KSBirds listservs. You can learn more about the MOBirds listserv at the Audubon Society of Missouri website (www.mobirds.org). The KSBirds listserv is hosted by the Kansas Ornithological Society which can be found on the web at www.ksbirds.org.

Saturday Morning Bird Walks offered by the two area Wild Bird Centers:

Noland Road Store: 4480 S. Noland Road, Noland South Shopping Center, Independence, MO (816-478-9399). Saturday

Morning Bird Walks: Destination to be determined the morning of the walk. Bring binoculars and field guides if you have them. Meet at the store at 7:30 a.m., bird for 2-1/2 or 3 hours, then return to the store.

Corinth Square Store: 4046 W. 83rd, Prairie Village, KS (913-381-5633 or 913-648-8437). Saturday Morning Bird Walks: 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month. Meet at the store at 8:00 a.m.



From the President's Nest (cont. from page 2)

Burroughs has decided to address these changes by adopting a newsletter "opt-in" program starting in December of this year. What this means is that all existing members and new members will receive two newsletters per year by default (the dates of the issues to be announced in the next issue). These newsletters mailed to the entire membership will address important "annual" issues, such as the upcoming season's programs, the annual dinner, etc. By only distributing two issues per year to all members, this will decrease our costs and cut dramatically the amount of paper and resources we consume with Wingbeat.

We will still print the other issues of the newsletter, but with a smaller print run and we will only mail to those members that specifically request to "opt-in" to all issues. Members that receive these issues will see no change from the way that the newsletter works today; they will have to notify us just once that they choose to continue to receive all issues in printed form. (See the form on Page 3.) For those that don't wish to receive all issues in print form, the issues will be available in an electronic format (PDF) on our website at www.burroughs.org.

The June Wingbeat, and this edition are available on the website at this time, and each new issue will be posted as soon as it's available (usually 2 weeks faster than you receive your current newsletter in the mail). We'll put another notice in the next newsletter and make sure that everyone understands the new program as it is implemented. If you have any questions, feel free to call any of the board members and we'll help you out! Remember, this does not affect you in any way if you send in the "opt-in" form today! But if you want to help Burroughs and decrease our impact on the environment, start reading Wingbeat online.

Burroughs' Youth Programs

Burroughs is currently involved in several youth education efforts focused on birds and the environment.

Audubon Adventures. We currently sponsor over 25 classrooms in the Kansas City area. The program involves four newsletters and associated activity guides per year for children in the 3rd, 4th and 5th grades. If your school would like to become involved with Audubon Adventures, please contact Kelly Gillespie (816-779-7391) for more information. The program costs \$35 per classroom, which is funded by Burroughs (proceeds from our Birdathon fund drive).

Kansas City Rotary Youth Camp/Ecology Day. Each fall we help the Kansas City area Rotary Ecology Day program, which is held at the Rotary Youth Camp near Lake Jacomo. This year approximately 120 students took part in the program which featured presentations by Burroughs, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Bridging the Gap, Lakeside Nature Center and other organizations.

Field kits. To help expand our youth education efforts, Burroughs is building two Birding Field kits to use with student groups. These kits will consist of 1 dozen Field Guides and 12 pairs of Binoculars. If you would like help with this effort, you can make a donation to pay for one or more field guides or pairs of binoculars by contacting Ed McCullough at 816-505-2840.



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- Pentax ED80 Spotting Scope**

Backyard Bird Center

For all your wild bird and nature viewing needs!
Boardwalk Square Center
@I-29 and NW Barry Rd.
746-1113

Singles Luncheon

SUNDAYS AT 12:30

September 28th

Grand Street Café

4740 Grand

(behind Winsteads on the Plaza)

For further information, contact
Doris Cobb, 816-331-1119



**VISIT BURROUGHS
AUDUBON CENTER AND
LIBRARY**

Fleming Park, Lake Jacomo

(from Hwy 291 take Exit 12
and go 2 miles East on Woods
Chapel Road)

**Open Tuesday, Thursday,
Friday and Saturday
12:30-4:30
816-795-8177**

How to become a Burroughs member:

N02 7XCH

Please use the following form for **NEW** membership:

(If you are renewing, please use the form from National Audubon)

APPLICATION FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP OR CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Please check the annual membership category you desire:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Membership/\$20. | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen/\$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing/\$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/\$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sr. Citizen Family/\$23 | <input type="checkbox"/> Donor/\$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family/\$38 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining/\$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life/\$1,500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student/\$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting/\$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> CHANGE OF ADDRESS |

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Make check payable to NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY and mail to Heidi McCullough, 5915 NW Caney Creek Drive, Kansas City, MO 64151. Questions? Call 816-505-2840. Moving? Fill out this form with new address, check CHANGE OF ADDRESS above and mail to Heidi McCullough. National Audubon/Burroughs Audubon Application for joint membership. You can also email Heidi for more information: heidi@mcculloughweb.com

Wingbeat Newsletter Editor Needed!

Do you have skills in desktop publishing and would like to help Burroughs with its newsletter? Currently the position of newsletter editor is open and available!

We publish 6 issues each year, with most of the content being provided by regular contributors. Knowledge and access to either PageMaker or Quark are desired.

Contributors write their articles or compile the information for their section (birding trips, general meetings, etc) and forward that information to the newsletter editor. The editor then does the layout and design for the current issue, while editing the content for accuracy and completeness. Once an issue is ready to go to the printer, there are usually a couple of people that assist in a final edit.

The newsletter editor then submits the issue of the wingbeat to the printer electronically, receives a faxed blueline copy from the printer for final approval, and then release the issue for printing and mailing. Our printing company handles the printing, addressing and mailing of each issue. Our membership chair provides the address file to the printer, so the newsletter editor is not involved in that part of the work.

Are you interested in helping us out? Please contact Ed McCullough (816-718-3861 or ed@mcculloughweb.com).

Next newsletter deadline is: November 8, 2003.

Burroughs Audubon Society
Of Greater Kansas City
5915 NW Caney Creek Dr., Kansas City, MO 64151

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