

WingBeat

Volume 58 Issue 1 • Winter 2006



CANADIAN AUTHOR To Speak at BAS Annual Dinner Presentation: 'Hawks and Owls—Those Magnificent Raptors'

Sign up to attend the BAS Annual Dinner and Silent Auction on Saturday, April 8, 2006, and you'll be in for a real treat! Mr. Chris Earley, interpretive biologist and education coordinator for the Arboretum at the University of Guelph in Ontario, has graciously agreed to give this year's presentation: *Hawks and Owls—Those Magnificent Raptors*. In Chris' enthusiastic words, "Everyone is fascinated by birds of prey. Their combination of regal looks, predatory habits, and powers of flight bring a sense of awe to all observers. This talk will focus on what makes these birds so special to us and why they deserve our praise."



Chris' knowledge is wide-ranging. He has led tours to the Canadian Arctic, Greenland, and southern Ontario and currently a safari tour to Kenya and Tanzania for Quest Tours. He shares with BAS members a special fondness for birds, and a desire to know not only how to identify them, but to understand their behavior and natural history as well. To this end, he has written four compact but lavishly illustrated and easily read texts: *Warblers of the Great Lakes Region and Eastern North America*, *Sparrows and Finches of the Great Lakes Region and Eastern North America*, *Waterfowl of North America*, and of course, *Hawks and Owls of the Great Lakes Region and Eastern North America*. These books will be available for purchase at the dinner and can be signed by the author upon request. Chris' publisher, Firefly Books, will donate a selection of various nature-related books for purchase via the Silent Auction.

To add to the fun, and provide more opportunity to get acquainted with our guest, **BAS is also hosting a field trip following the Annual Dinner. All are welcome to attend.** We will be driving to Squaw Creek NWR for a day trip with Chris on Sunday, April 9, arriving at Pershing State Park and Swan Lake NWR near Chillicothe, MO on Monday, April 10, to look for migrating waterfowl and early passerines.

See the registration form inside the newsletter for further details. Invite friends, and please return yours early! Hope to see you there!

--Elizabeth Stoakes
Blue Springs, MO

General Meetings are held the **FIRST THURSDAY** of each month, September through June (except in April, when we hold our Annual Dinner), at the Missouri Conservation Department's **Anita Gorman Conservation Discovery Center**, 4750 Troost, Kansas City. Meetings begin at 7 PM; come at 6:30 for coffee and conversation.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2: "The Missouri River: Then & Now, 1806 vs. 2006," by Bob Fluchel, Conservation Education Program Coordinator and Director of the Missouri Conservation Department's Anita B. Gorman Conservation Discovery Center.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2: "Gardening to Attract Birds," by Alan Branhagen, Director of Horticulture, Powell Gardens.

APRIL: Burroughs' Annual Dinner at Hillcrest Country Club—No meeting on the first Thursday.

THURSDAY, MAY 4: "International Conservation Partnerships for Migratory Birds," by Brad Jacobs, Wildlife Ecologist and Ornithologist, Missouri Department of Conservation, and author of *Birds in Missouri* and *Missouri Breeding Bird Atlas, 1986-1992*.

THURSDAY, JUNE 1: Least Bittern Project at Squaw Creek NWF, by Frank Durbian, Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Amanda Griffin, graduate student, Northwest Missouri State University.

Speaker Suggestions? Contact Marilyn at (816) 537-5966 or by email at: koshland@mindspring.com.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S NEST:

With the recent Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC) season, birders had an opportunity to participate in a meaningful, ongoing 'citizen science' project that delivers real, and valuable, data. For example, Bewick's Wren was once a fairly common species east of the Mississippi River. Today, it's found mostly from the central plains, westward. CBC data collected by amateur ornithologists for over 100 years show that the species began a downward trend in the east during the 1960's and 70's. Equipped with this long-term data, scientists have investigated the phenomenon and tested theories about the species' decline. The reasons for the rapid decline of Bewick's Wren are not altogether clear, but some ornithologists suspect the House Wren, an aggressive competitor for nesting territories and other resources (<http://www.birdsource.org/features/bewr/index.html>). Plan to participate in the next KC CBC on Sunday, December 17, 2006. Contact me 816-554-1956 or mstoakes@juno.com for more information.

Other 'citizen science' projects with growing bodies of data are the summer Breeding Bird Survey (BBS), coordinated by our state ornithological organizations (Kansas Ornithological Society and Audubon Society of Missouri), and the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC), a joint project of Audubon and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. The next GBBC will take place February 17-20, 2006. This is a weekend not just for watching birds, but for teaching people about birds and birding. Toward that end, I would like to recruit at least six volunteers to participate in the GBBC at the Burroughs Library at Lake Jacomo on February 18 and 19 (Saturday and Sunday) from 10AM - 4:30PM. At any given time, at least one person will watch the feeders for birds while the other volunteers will interact with visitors and periodically relieve those monitoring feeders. Local media will receive a press release about the event and the public, especially children, will be invited to visit the library on these two days of the count. Please consider helping out with this community education and outreach opportunity. To learn more about the GBBC and view past year's results, visit Birdsource's website: <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc>. To volunteer, please contact me by phone or email. Wishing all of you a happy and healthy new year,

*Mike Stoakes, President
Burroughs Audubon Society of Greater Kansas City*

Gift memberships and Donations: Care to send AUDUBON magazine to a friend? Send this coupon with new member information to the address on the form. Help Burroughs place *Audubon Adventures*® curricula in KC area classrooms, fund graduate level education in ornithology and promote restoration of local habitat. Donors will receive Burroughs' quarterly newsletter, *Wingbeat*. **Send donations to:** Phil & Nancy Reicher, 401 W. 58th Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64113. **Donations are fully tax deductible.** BAS is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

Burroughs Audubon Officers

President: Mike Stoakes
816-554-1956
mstoakes@juno.com

Vice President: Jill DeWitt
525 E. 54th Street
Kansas City, MO 64110
816-333-3293
jdewitt1@kc.rr.com

Secretary: Elizabeth Stoakes
816-554-1956
lizkvet@yahoo.com

Treasurers: Phil & Nancy Reicher
401 W. 58th Terrace
Kansas City, MO 64113
816-333-3876
preicher@kc.rr.com
nreicher@hotmail.com

Board of Directors

Joe Alburty.....jalburty@Unicom.net
Ray Coveney.....coveneyr@umkc.edu
- Open Board Position -
Laurie Kosmiski.....lkosmisk@everestkc.net
Lisa Weeks.....lfw@kc.rr.com

Committees and Chairs

Adopt-A-Refuge: Open
Audubon Adventures: Kelly R. Gillespie
Media, Programs: Marilyn Koshland
BAS Library/Center: Anne Duffer
Conservation: Jill DeWitt
Field Trips: Matt Gearheart
Newsletter: Jill DeWitt, editor, Polly Swafford, Lisa Weeks, Matt Gearheart, Elizabeth Stoakes, Carol Boles
Sanctuaries: Open
KCWildlands: **Dick Dawson, Mark McKellar, Don Arney**

WingBeat is the quarterly publication of the Burroughs Audubon Society of Greater Kansas City. BAS is a non-profit membership organization in the Kansas City area whose members 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. Your participation makes Burroughs Audubon an effective, dynamic voice and center for birding and conservation in the Kansas City region. Contact us to join in activities!



If renewing membership, please use form and envelope received from National Audubon

NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / CHANGE OF ADDRESS

New Membership \$20 CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Email _____

Make checks payable to **National Audubon Society** and mail to: MEMBERSHIP DATA CENTER, PO Box 51005, Boulder CO 80323-1005. Questions: Call (816) 554-1956.

Moving? Enter new address, check CHANGE OF ADDRESS, and mail to the MDC.

Your gift to Audubon is tax deductible except for the \$15 fair market value of AUDUBON magazine

National Audubon Society / Burroughs Audubon of Greater Kansas City N-02 7XCH

Support your National Wildlife Refuge

Participate in Prairie Restoration at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge

Join us at Squaw Creek! Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge has some of the best Loess Bluff habitat in the world. These bluffs support a number of threatened and endangered prairie species. To help with this prairie restoration effort, contact Jeanine and Ed Montgomery, chairpersons of the Prairie Committee at (660) 935-2254 or visit www.squawcreek.org. A bid has been accepted and construction will begin soon on a new outdoor classroom at the refuge.

Saturday, February 25, 2006*:
Prairie Workday

Saturday, March 11: Prairie Workday.

March 18 through May 7:
Office open on weekends,

Saturday, March 25: Prairie Workday - see above.

Saturday, April 8: Spring Workday. Volunteers of all ages and abilities are welcome to come help with refuge upkeep. Meet at the refuge headquarters starting at 8 a.m.

Saturday, April 29: Prairie Workday.

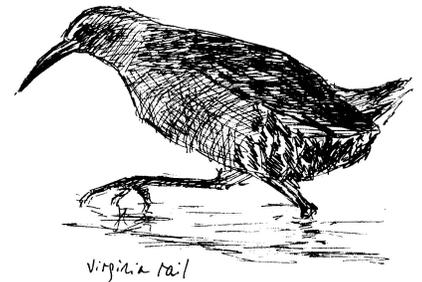
*Activities are weather dependent and may be canceled due to inclement weather. Please call Corey at 816-383-0034 to inquire about cancellations. Safety is a primary concern of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. For this reason, on all workdays, volunteers will need to wear work boots, a long sleeve shirt, and long pants. Contact the refuge headquarters for additional details (660) 442-3187.

Participate in Audubon at the state level! Contact Jill DeWitt (816) 333-3293 or jdewitt1@kc.rr.com for details.

Shelford Sanctuary Future

Should Shelford Sanctuary be sold? A group is needed to insure preservation of this site (Pileated Woodpecker habitat). Contact 816-333-3293 or email jdewitt1@kc.rr.com. Shelford Sanctuary was named for a respected teacher by the teacher who donated the sanctuary, Lena Feigner. Ms. Feigner's small home and one-room schoolhouse was surrounded by wild ginger and other native plants, which remain on the land.

Please call (816) 333-3293 if you would like to participate or learn details. Join us in March for a trip to this site near Paola, Kansas with MDC Natural History Biologist Larry Rizzo and Burroughs Audubon's Don Arney.
--Jill DeWitt
Kansas City



Kirsten Munson

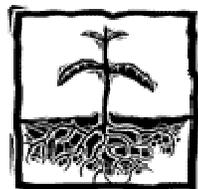
**THOMAS NATIVE
LANDSCAPING LLC**

**SPECIALIZING IN ORGANIC,
SUSTAINABLE, AND
NATIVE LANDSCAPING**

816 353-7383

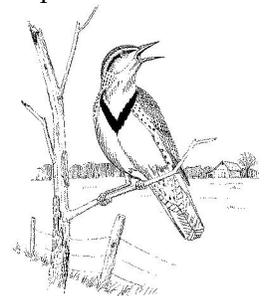
Missouri Wildflowers Nursery

9814 Pleasant Hill Road
Jefferson City MO 65109
email: mowildflowers.net



Time to Plant Fall Asters, Goldenrod!
Native Plant Catalogue, \$2.

Stephen Koshland,
D.D.S.
Comprehensive Dentistry



**Birding Conversations
Welcome**

7301 Mission Road Suite 200
Prairie Village, KS 66208
(913) 722-6611

Bird Profile: Great Horned Owl

Bubo virginianus

The largest "eared" owl native to North America is the Great Horned Owl. Although fragmentary, the family tree of owl evolution from uncovered fossil forms reveals that the first true owls appeared over fifty million years ago during the Eocene.

The Great Horned Owl is a large (18-25 inches, with wingspread 49 to 57 inches) bird of prey that occupies an ecological spot at the top of the food chain. Typical plumage of the Great Horned Owl: upperparts are dark brown, mottled with buff and white. The upper parts are lighter, with dark brown or black fine barring. They have white throats, bright yellow eyes, and conspicuous ear tufts.

Although they have incredible night vision, they also see quite well in the daylight due to the large size of their eyes. The fact that they have fixed eyeballs, like the headlights on a car, is a disadvantage. To see other than straight ahead, horned owls have the ability to rotate their heads three-quarters of a turn and whip them back in a rapid, fluid motion. The owl's eyes are set directly in front of their wide face and provide them with binocular vision. Their hearing is equally excellent, due to large ear openings far apart on the wide sides of their heads.

The range of the Great Horned Owl is widespread over most of the continent. Their habitat varies from deserts, shrub areas, canyons, forests, open country and the wooded areas of cities and towns.

Instead of building nests of their own, horned owls often use the nests of their complementary species, the diurnal Red-tailed Hawk.

Occasionally, Great Horned Owls will nest in hollow trees. I have known them to nest in old silos, barns--and even a lumber yard. They usually lay two or three round white eggs, which incubate in 26 to 30 days. The nestlings remain in the nest as long as ten weeks before fledging.

The indigestible parts of the owl's prey are teeth, nails, bones, feathers and fur. After about an eight-hour process, these indigestible parts are formed into a pellet. Pellets are coughed up after a series of steps which expel the pellet within four minutes.

Great Horned Owls begin courtship as early as late December through February. In 1982, on the 28th and 30th of December, I heard the hooting of a pair of Great Horned Owls near our home. I did not hear them again until 11:15 pm January 2, 1983. I heard the soft 'hoot-hoot' in the pine trees about fifty feet from the kitchen window. There was silence for several seconds, then an answering 'hoot-hoot' in the distance. There were long lapses of silence between hoots. I went to bed. I awoke at 12:30 a.m. to a more intense hooting. Our mercury farm light illuminates the area of the pine trees. I looked out the window, and saw the Great Horned Owl spotlighted center stage. I watched, entranced, as this huge bird of prey hooted more intensely. The muted hoots went back and forth from one owl to the other. It was a soft 'cooing' hoot. This interchange of hooting continued for five to seven minutes, picking up in tempo. The owl in the pines began tipping forward and back, still hooting--and at the same time it lifting and fanning its tail. Hoot and tip, hoot and tip...it lifted its

majestic wings, continuing to hoot and tip--never missing a note. The rhythm was set as the owl tipped ever lower, raising its whitish rump with tail feathers erect, its huge wings rising from its body, revealing light buffy underwings. Ever nearer came the soft, hooting response. Then, much to my astonishment, a larger Great Horned Owl--female by size comparison-- flew from the pine next to the pine with the smaller displaying male owl. She flew directly over the male owl, barely brushing against him. She continued flying southeast to a deciduous tree line. The male hooted twice softly, no longer tipping. He shook himself vigorously to smooth his ruffled feathers. As he turned his head into the light, his large yellow eyes radiated light as he lifted silently from his perch and flew to join his mate.



How privileged I felt to have witnessed part of the courting ritual of the majestic Great Horned Owl from my kitchen window!

--JoAnn Garrett

Lewis Wane Walker, *The Book of Owls*

Donald S. Hentzelman, *Hawks and Owls*



BACKYARD BIRD CENTER

For All Your Wild Bird and Nature Viewing Needs

BOARDWALK SQUARE
@ I-29 & Barry Road.

6212 N.W. Barry Rd.
Kansas City, MO 64154

Mark McKellar, Owner

816-746-1113 www.backyardbirdcenterkc

Falconry Outing Builds Bridges For BAS



On December 10, seven adventurous birders joined Bob Payne and Norma Haynes of the Missouri Falconers' Association for our first falconry field trip at a public hunting area at Smithville Lake. Bob introduced us to his Harris' Hawk, "George", and his young Northern Goshawk. We tramped up and down the snowy hills and brushy ravines as Bob's Jack Russell terriers scoured the bushes for rabbits and George flew majestically from treetop to treetop, watching for movement below. When flying free, each hawk is equipped with a lightweight telemetry device on a leg so that the hawk can be tracked if it becomes separated from its handler. Two rabbits were flushed, but both managed to elude George's determined dives!

In the second half of the outing, a German Wirehair Pointer was employed to locate quail to be taken by the goshawk. None appeared, but the bird took the opportunity to learn to watch and follow the dog closely, and returned to Bob when summoned (encouraged by fresh meat snacks). Most birders never have the chance to witness the hunting prowess of raptors so closely, or to appreciate the knowledge, patience, and dedication of falconers such as Bob and Norma in the care and training of their birds. Two groups which may seem to be worlds apart share a common passion: a love of birds, wildlife and the preservation of the open spaces they require to live their lives to the fullest. Many thanks, Bob and Norma!

--Elizabeth Stoakes
Lee's Summit, MO

Subscribe to BurroughsAnnounce for notification of Burroughs events at:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BurroughsAnnounce/>

A Legacy for All

Pre-settlement prairie, a woodland nesting site for Pileated Woodpeckers, a streamside stopover for migrating songbirds, a nature center and library...what do they all have in common? Someone cared enough about preserving the natural world to leave a legacy in perpetuity. Contact Burroughs Audubon about planned giving and conservation easements.

--Jill DeWitt,
jdewitt1@kc.rr.com
816-333-3293

Classroom teachers teaching within the Kansas City area can receive a free kit of Audubon Adventures nature newspapers. Each set includes a copy for each student and a teacher's manual. Consider contacting instructors at schools in your area. A great resource for your classroom! Contact Kelly Gillespie:
kelly.gillespie@leesummit.k12.mo.us

Conservation Matters

Conservation Committee meets Second Mondays of the month. Bi-state issues include birding trails in Northeast Kansas and Northwest Missouri, the Loess Hills Initiative, regional water and clean air issues and defense of conservation funding. To receive email updates or to serve on wildlands, trails, or energy subcommittees, send your email address to jdewitt1@kc.rr.com.

*Know anyone planning to move?
To Sell—or Buy, Missouri or Kansas
Wallace Kilbourne 914-451-6660
Reece and Nichols Realty*

Burroughs Audubon Photo Contest

\$100 Grand Prize

Best Bird Photo
Best Habitat Photo

Other categories will be considered. Potential sponsors are encouraged to contact us; additional prizes are encouraged. Both digital and film will be accepted. Please submit photos by June 30, 2006. For complete rules, contact Jill DeWitt at (816) 333-3293 or email jdewitt1@kc.rr.com.

Auction Items Needed — Donors, Please Read!

It's that time of year again—we need some intriguing items to interest bidders on April 8. Jewelry, art, quilts, gift baskets, event tickets, food items, services—the possibilities are limited only by your imagination! We've received some wonderful items in past years.

- 1. Though most items need not be nature-related, all must be in usable condition**—no missing parts or excessive wear, no obsolete electronic or household devices, etc.
- 2. We ask that all donations be declared to the BAS Board of Directors (see contact information below) by April 1.** We can arrange to have items picked up prior to the dinner, or at least reserve space for them and create bidding cards in advance. If items are brought to the dinner, please bring them by 5:30 PM to allow maximum bidding time.
- 3. Due to space limitations, any books donated must be bird, nature, or gardening-related, and be in good condition.**

Thanks in advance for your cooperation! We are working hard to make this the most enjoyable and best-attended Annual Dinner we've ever had! And remember, all donations are tax-deductible! Contact us for tax receipts. If you have any questions, please contact Mike Stoakes at (816) 554-1956 or mstoakes@juno.com.

Field Trips

Saturday, January 28: Powell Gardens with Alan Branhagen. Meet at 9:00AM at the Visitor Education Center. Alan has waived the usual entry fee for participants in this Burroughs-sponsored event. When you arrive at the gate, just mention the field trip. We'll see the "wild side" of Powell Gardens along the 3.25-mile Byron Schutz nature trail. The trail winds past ponds, through woods of Osage orange and honeylocust and into an abandoned field with numerous Eastern Red Cedar trees. Eventually, the trail climbs to the ridge that flanks Powell Gardens' north and east boundaries. Here, we'll hike through pockets of prairie that once covered the entire ridge. Anticipated species include all of the woodpeckers, the 'woodland sprites' (chickatithatch wrenlets), various finches and sparrows, and possibly Hermit Thrush and Winter Wren. Last January, we even saw a Gray Catbird here! This is entirely a walking trip, and we do plan to cover the full length of the trail. If the weather is bad, this trip may be cancelled. Check the website (www.burroughs.org) on January 28 for notice of cancellation. Powell Gardens is located in Johnson Co., MO along US Hwy 50 between Lee's Summit and Warrensburg. Address: 1609 NW US HWY 50, Kingsville, MO. For additional information, contact Mike Stoakes at 816-554-1956 or mstoakes@juno.com

Sunday, January 29: Lakeside Nature Center and Swope Park with Elizabeth Stoakes. Join Elizabeth for this last Sunday of the month bird walk in and around Swope Park. Plan to meet in the LNC parking lot at 7:50 AM for an 8:00 AM departure. For directions to Lakeside Nature Center, go to www.mapquest.com. Click on 'Get Directions', then enter the following Ending Address: 4701 E. Gregory Blvd., Kansas City, MO 64132. This will be a 2 to 4 hour excursion in various types of habitat. We'll look for winter visitors such as Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Winter Wren and various sparrows. Dress appropriately for the weather and moderate hiking. For more information, contact Elizabeth Stoakes at lizkvet@yahoo.com, or 816-554-1956.

Saturday, February 18 and Sunday, February 19: Great Backyard Bird Count. The Burroughs Library & Nature Center in Fleming Park (21509 S.W. Woods Chapel Road, Blue Springs, MO 64015) will be a count site in the nationwide 2006 Great Backyard Bird Count from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. each day. Join Burroughs volunteers who will be happy to help you identify the birds at the feeders and advise you about the type of seed that different species prefer. Coordinated by *Birdsource*, a joint project of Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon, the Ninth Annual Great Backyard Bird Count is a 'Citizen Science' project that involves anyone who wishes to observe birds at a stationary location throughout North America during the count period of Feb. 17-20. After the count, observers will submit their observations to *Birdsource* for compilation. Why count backyard birds? Scientists and bird enthusiasts can learn a lot by knowing where the birds are. Now that winter has gripped much of the continent, what are our birds doing? Bird populations are dynamic. They are constantly in flux. We will take a highly localized snapshot of bird populations in our area, and the public is invited to help us observe and learn. The data that we collect will help scientists answer questions like:

- * How will this winter's weather influence bird populations?
- * Where are the winter finches and other irruptive species (species prone to wander over a wide geographic area in winter to find food)?
- * Will late winter movements of many songbird and waterfowl species be as great as they were last year?

In addition, the data that we collect will be combined with Christmas Bird Count and Project FeederWatch data to give an immense picture of our winter birds. Each additional year that these data are collected makes them more important and meaningful. As scientists see patterns in the data, questions and insights can be developed to investigate and test these patterns. Contact Mike Stoakes at 816-554-1956 or mstoakes@juno.com if interested in participating and/or for more information.

Sunday, February 26th: KCWildlands Winter Community Restoration Workday. Volunteers needed from 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM. We'll be removing woody invasive plants, like bush honeysuckle and eastern red cedar, from 3 sites in the region:

- *Ogg Road Prairie (Shawnee Mission Park remnant prairie), Shawnee Mission, Kansas, managed by Johnson County Park and Recreation District.
 - *The Blue River Glades, Kansas City, Missouri, managed by Jackson County Parks and Recreation.
 - *Rocky Point Glades, south Kansas City, Missouri, managed by Kansas City Missouri Parks and Recreation Department.
- Please dress appropriately for workdays! Long pants, sturdy shoes (no sandals) and a hat are strongly recommended.

(continued)

Insect repellent (in summer), herbicide, gloves and drinking water are supplied. Some cutting tools are available to borrow, but please bring loppers and hand saws if you have them. All are encouraged to come out, work on, learn about and enjoy Kansas City's wild urban treasures! Burroughs Audubon is a partnering organization with KCWL. Working together, we can help each other meet our conservation goals! For more information, and to register for the workday, contact Linda Lehrbaum, KC WildLands Coordinator at 816-561-1061 ext. 116, or Linda@bridgingthegap.org.

Wednesday, March 8: Woodcock Walk with Larry Rizzo. Join MDC Natural History Biologist Larry Rizzo and Burroughs Audubon for a crepuscular fieldtrip to Jerry Smith Park to witness the fascinating courtship display of the American Woodcock! A true jewel among area parks, Jerry Smith Park is a 360-acre area owned by the Kansas City MO Parks Department. Purchased in 1976, the site hosts the largest known population of rare eared false foxglove (*Agalinis auriculata*) plants in the state. About one-third of the park contains fragments of restorable prairie. Directions from Holmes Road: Go East on 139th Street (the first road South of the Blue River Bridge), then go 3/4 mile to the park entrance on the left. Meet at 6:00PM.

Call Larry on the day of the walk (after 12:00 noon) for confirmation that the trip will proceed. Inclement or windy weather will inhibit vigorous display by the males (and observation by us). Dress appropriately for standing in place, and bring a flashlight. Larry Rizzo, 816-655-6254 x.246, or larry.rizzo@mo.gov.org.

Sunday, March 26: Lakeside Nature Center and Swope Park with Elizabeth Stoakes. Join Elizabeth for this last Sunday of the month bird walk in and around Swope Park. Plan to meet in the LNC parking lot at 7:50 AM for an 8:00 AM departure. Lakeside Nature Center, 4701 E. Gregory Blvd., Kansas City, MO 64132.

This will be a two to four hour excursion in various types of habitat. In addition to winter residents, we'll look for early spring migrants such as Eastern Phoebe, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Louisiana Waterthrush and Eastern Towhee. Dress appropriately for the weather and moderate hiking. For more information, contact Elizabeth Stoakes by email at lizkvet@yahoo.com, or phone 816-554-1956.

Sunday, April 9 and Monday, April 10: Join Mike and Elizabeth Stoakes as they take our guest speaker, Chris Earley, on an early spring birding tour of northern Missouri. On Sunday we will go to **Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge** in Mound City, MO, and possibly **Bob Brown Conservation Area** in the afternoon. We will stay overnight in the area and then proceed to **Pershing State Park** (near Chillicothe) on Monday morning, finishing at **Swan Lake NWR** in the afternoon before returning Chris to the airport. Participants will be responsible for their own driving/carpooling and lodging. Please contact Mike at (816) 554-1956 or mstoakes@juno.com if you plan to attend, so that we can arrange a meeting place and time for Sunday and Monday mornings.

May 5-7, 2006: Audubon Society of Missouri (ASM) Spring Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri.

Saturday Morning Bird Walks: Offered by the Kansas City area Wild Bird Centers

Corinth Square Store: First Saturday of the month, 4046 West 83rd, Prairie Village, KS. Meet at the store at 8:00am, bird for 2-3 hours, then return to the store. Call 913-381-5633 for more info. Bird Walks through June 2006:

January 7 - Lake Jacomo/Fleming Park

April 1 - Antioch Park (67th & Antioch in Merriam)

February 4 - Mill Creek Streamway (Wilder Road access near the Kaw River)

May 6 - Overland Park Arboretum (179th & Antioch)

March 4 - Indian Creek - Watts Mill Streamway (103rd & State Line Rd. - MO)

June 3 - Unity Village, MO (I-470 & MO 350 Hwy.)

Noland Road Store: 4201 South Noland Road, Independence, MO. Currently this store is looking for a new field trip leader, so the Saturday morning walks are not being held. If you can help, don't hesitate to call 816-478-9399 for more info.

MORE INFORMATION: For more information about our field trips, or to volunteer to lead a trip, please contact Matt Gearheart by email at mgearheart@gwhm.com, or phone 913-568-4678.

NOTE: 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.



Burroughs Audubon Center And Library
At Fleming Park, Lake Jacomo

Open Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday

12:30 PM-4:30 PM

The center has a selection of bird feeders, bird guides and birdseed for purchase at nonprofit prices. Directions: From I-470/Hwy 291 take Exit 12 east on Woods Chapel Road two miles. At the Fleming Park sign, turn south at the first road on the right. (816) 795-8177.

Burroughs Audubon Society
Of Greater Kansas City
21509 SW Woods Chapel Road
Blue Springs, MO 64015

Forwarding and return postage guaranteed.
Address Service Requested

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Kansas City, MO

Permit No. 231

Note:

Articles, photos, art, ads and announcements for the Spring issue are due April 14. Please mail to Jill DeWitt, 525 East 54th Street, KCMO 64110 or send by email to jdewitt1@kc.rr.com.

Printed on recycled paper with soy ink.