



# Burroughs Audubon

*Harris Sparrow courtesy of  
Linda Williams*

**Greater Kansas City Chapter of the National Audubon Society**

Burroughs Audubon promotes the appreciation of birds, enjoyment of nature, natural history, education & conservation of habitat.

## WingBeat

**Volume 62, No. 2  
Fall 2010**

*WingBeat* is a publication of the Burroughs Audubon Society of Greater Kansas City, a non-profit membership organization in the Kansas City area whose members share an interest in birding and preserving our natural heritage for future generations. Its members 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.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE!** Burroughs Audubon programs are now the first TUESDAY of each month.

### **Burroughs Audubon Spring Programs 2010**

**TUESDAY, September 7, 2010**

#### **Raptor Banding in the Loess Hills of Iowa**

Jerry Toll, from the Hitchcock Nature Center in Honey Creek, Iowa, will discuss why raptors concentrate there during migration, how hawk watch data is gathered, and what it reveals about various raptor species. *(A visit to HNC is planned for late September--see the Field Trip page for details!)*

**TUESDAY, October 5, 2010**

#### **Conservation Issues of the Louisiana Coast**

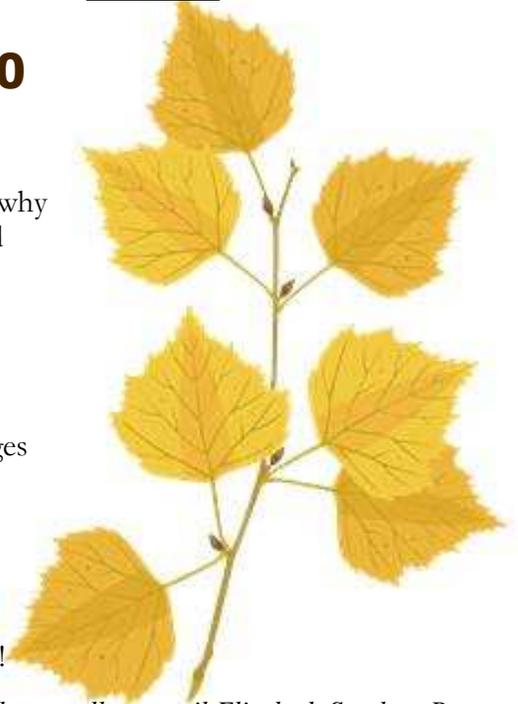
Members of the Burroughs Audubon Conservation Committee will discuss changes and challenges facing this area of prime wetlands and bird habitat.

**TUESDAY, November 2, 2010**

#### **"Birds of Peru"**

Greg Griffith returns as one of Burroughs Audubon's most popular speakers. A noted videographer, Greg will show more film of exotic, endemic species of Peru!

*If you have a speaker or topic you would like to suggest for a future General Meeting, please call or email Elizabeth Stoakes, Program Coordinator (816) 554-1956, [lizkvet@yahoo.com](mailto:lizkvet@yahoo.com).*



### **Going Green**

In an effort to reduce our carbon footprint Burroughs Audubon will email the newsletter to all those who have an email address registered with National Audubon. We thank you for your understanding.

### **General Meetings ~ Tuesdays**

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month  
September through June (except in April)

6:30 PM ~ Coffee and Conversation  
7 PM ~ Meeting and Special Events

Anita B. Gorman Conservation Discovery Center  
4750 Troost Avenue ~ Kansas City, Missouri

## BOARD MEETINGS

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM

## OFFICERS

**Elizabeth Stoakes, President**  
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[lizkvet@yahoo.com](mailto:lizkvet@yahoo.com)

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Audubon Adventures, Education**  
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**Library**  
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Heidi Retherford [purplemoose@swbell.net](mailto:purplemoose@swbell.net)

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[kestrel277@comcast.net](mailto:kestrel277@comcast.net) (Shari)

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**Chapter Membership, Database**  
Christine Kline [birdsecretary@comcast.net](mailto:birdsecretary@comcast.net)

**Webmaster, BurroughsAnnounce**  
Mike Stoakes [mstoakes@juno.com](mailto:mstoakes@juno.com)

# The Art of Giving

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**"For it is in giving that we receive."** The act of giving yields true benefits. When you give to Burroughs Audubon, your donation benefits the people, creatures, and environments important to you. Your generosity enables Burroughs Audubon to support graduate studies in ornithology, promote restoration of critical habitat, maintain our local sanctuaries, and provide funding for Audubon Adventures in metro classrooms. Burroughs also offers bird walks, field trips, guest speakers and educational programs that are free to everyone. Donations help to support ongoing projects locally, an hour away at Squaw Creek (our adopted National Wildlife Refuge) and even as far away as Central America, where neotropical migrants face devastating habitat loss on their over wintering grounds. You, the giver, benefit by knowing habitats are protected, children are learning to be good stewards of the Earth, and everyone is enjoying the birds in our woods, prairies, and wetlands.

You can donate to Burroughs Audubon by joining the National Audubon Society or with a direct donation to Burroughs Audubon, your Greater Kansas Chapter of the National Audubon Society. You can become an Audubon Advocate who pledges a monthly gift, or honor a loved one with a Living Tribute or a Memorial. Your generosity will be felt close to home and half a world away.

**Donations are fully tax deductible.**

*Burroughs Audubon Society is a 501(c)(3) organization.*

**Burroughs Audubon Society**

**7300 West Park Road – Blue Springs, MO 64015**

For Stock Gifts or Workplace Giving visit [www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org) and click on "Give now."

## Give by Becoming a Member of the National Audubon Society MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ May we contact you by email?  Yes  No

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

USA: 1 Yr \$20  Canada: 1 Yr \$45  International: 1 Yr \$50  Change of Address

**Make checks payable to:** National Audubon Society

**Please Memo:** Burroughs Audubon Society COZN020Z

**Mail to:** National Audubon Society ~ P.O. Box 422250 ~ Palm Coast, FL 32142-2250

Questions? Call (816) 540-3515

Moving? Enter new address, check "Change of Address," and mail.

*Your membership to Audubon is deductible except for  
the \$15 fair market value of Audubon Magazine*

## Give by making a donation to Burroughs Audubon Society

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ May we contact you by email?  Yes  No

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to:** Burroughs Audubon Society

**Mail to:** Burroughs Audubon, 7300 West Park Road ~ Blue Springs, MO 64015

*Burroughs Audubon is currently expanding its giving in the field of education,  
including Audubon Adventures through its Library and Education Committees.*

*Your donations will help support us in these areas.*

*Your donation to Burroughs Audubon Society is tax deductible.*

*Burroughs Audubon Society is a 501(c)(3) organization.*



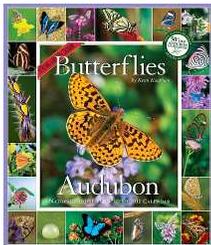
Autumn is fast approaching, with cooling temperatures and birds moving from summer to winter homes. Amazingly, some warblers and shorebirds begin their journey as early as late July. Spring and fall seasons are highlights of a birder's year. It's the best time to see a wide variety of migrating species.

While field trips are fun, I wanted to take this time to remind you that migrants are also close to home. In a treasure of a place, unknown to even many long-time members, the Burroughs Audubon Library and Nature Center is nestled at the northwest corner of Lake Jacomo. For almost 40 years, Jackson County Parks and Recreation has generously provided us with a house and grounds, formerly a park biologist's home, allowing us to create a beautiful and educational sanctuary. Now, thanks to the Library Committee and other dedicated volunteers, it's looking better than ever! After last fall's prairie burning, beautiful and plentiful prairie wildflowers are blooming, attracting butterflies and sheltering families of bluebirds and towhees. Native plant gardens maturing near the building provide nectar for hummingbirds. Our extensive library contains not only books about birds and naturalists' writings, but it also contains volumes about plants, reptiles, and mammals from all over the world. Over 6,000 books are available for checkout and reference. We provide free handouts on birds, bird feeding, conservation issues and habitat improvement. We have examples of Audubon's inimitable artwork and material on the history of National Audubon and our own Burroughs chapter, thriving for over 90 years. We also have a little gift shop that sells seed, feeders, and gifts for every bird lover of every age.

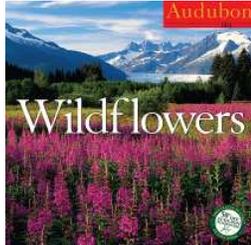
The centerpiece of it all is the bird sanctuary and viewing area, currently in the midst of major renovations. Thanks to our friends at the Wild Bird Center in Prairie Village, new feeding stations will accommodate more birds and augment an already impressive list of species that visit throughout the year. We hope to inspire visitors to feed, observe, and appreciate birds at home in their own backyards.

These changes are thrilling, as our facility has tremendous resources. I am proud to be President during this time of great improvements. I encourage everyone to come and enjoy YOUR nature center—it truly belongs to every Burroughs Audubon member. Your dollars support it and your visits will keep it alive for many years to come. We look forward to seeing you! Wherever you are—enjoy the birds!

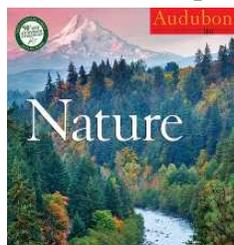
## Audubon Calendars: Show your support and Order Now!



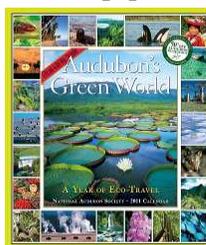
**365 Butterflies**  
**\$13.00**



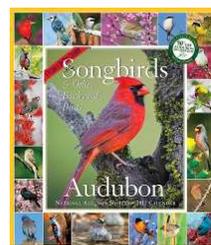
**Wildflowers**  
**\$13.00**



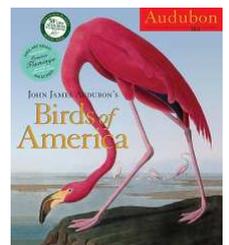
**Nature**  
**\$13.00**



**Green World**  
**\$13.00**

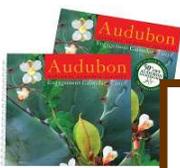


**365 Songbirds**  
**\$13.00**



**Birds of America**  
**\$17.00**

Also available: Engagement/ Week-at-a-glance Datebook \$14.00



### To order contact:

Christine Kline, Fundraising Chair [birdsecretary@comcast.net](mailto:birdsecretary@comcast.net) (816) 540-3515 or mail a check to Burroughs Audubon 7300 West Park Road ~ Blue Springs, MO 64015

## Burroughs Audubon Rummage Sale

In order to continue major improvements at our Library and Nature Center, we are accepting donations for the Burroughs Audubon Rummage Sale. We will accept donations on September 11th, 12th, and 14th from 1PM to 4PM at the Burroughs Audubon Library and Nature Center located at 7300 West Park Road in Blue Springs, Missouri. (Just off Woods Chapel Road at the Lake Jacomo Marina entrance.) All items should be relatively clean and in usable condition. Tax receipts will be available on request. Please call 816-554-1956 with any questions.

**All proceeds benefit the Burroughs Audubon Library and Nature Center**

**7300 West Park Road ~ Blue Springs, Missouri 64015**

*(Just off Woods Chapel Road at the Lake Jacomo Marina entrance.)*

**September 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, & 18<sup>th</sup> (Thursday – Saturday) from 9 AM to 4 PM Daily**

**We accept debit and credit cards**



# ISSUES and ACTIONS

For over a century, Audubon has been a leading voice encouraging conservation of precious habitat and wildlife for future generations. The articles that appear on this page, along with other issues and actions can be viewed in more detail at [www.audubon.org/campaign](http://www.audubon.org/campaign).

## Louisiana Coastal Initiative Needs Our Help

by Heidi Retherford

Every day, Louisiana loses an area of coastal wetlands equivalent to about 32 football fields--one of the fastest land-loss rates in the world. Four Burroughs Audubon Board Members, Nic Allen, Michael O'Keefe, Heidi Retherford, and Jill DeWitt (Past President, Burroughs Audubon; also of Audubon Missouri) visited Louisiana to study the problem and find out what could be done to help.

Approximately 3.2 million waterfowl and shorebirds spend the winter in southern Louisiana. 360 species of birds move through Louisiana's wetlands during spring or fall migration. After touring Louisiana's coast, Nic Allen remarked, "I was amazed at the bird diversity that is present in the Delta. It emphasizes the importance of this area as a bird stop-over during migration." Jill DeWitt agreed, "Coastal restoration would provide critical habitat for Roseate Spoonbills, Clapper Rails, plovers, and Tri-colored Herons, as well as a storm buffer for greater New Orleans in a time of rapid climate change."

Wetlands are Louisiana's first line of defense against hurricane force winds and flooding from storms. Scientists estimate that every mile of wetlands can trim three to nine inches off a storm surge. When wetlands deteriorate, it costs taxpayers millions of dollars to repair storm damage that could have been avoided if natural coastal wetlands were there as a buffer. Louisiana's coastal wetlands also support a productive seafood industry as it provides shrimp and other seafood to our local restaurants and they protect a port

and energy infrastructure that serves the nation. As Michael O'Keefe emphasized, "With the erosion taking place along the coast, this oil and gas infrastructure is becoming more exposed to damage from storm surges."

Heidi Retherford explains, "There are two main causes for this deterioration in wetlands. First, sediments that formerly flowed down the Mississippi River to rebuild the Louisiana coast are being impeded. Our own Missouri River once contributed 70 percent of the sediments that flowed down to the Mississippi River Delta. Over many decades, dams and levees were built to control and inhibit the flow of the Mississippi River system to protect people and businesses from naturally occurring floods. However, these dams and levees prevent sediments and silts from flowing down to the Mississippi River Delta to naturally rebuild coastal wetlands.

Secondly, along the Louisiana coast, oil drilling companies, as well as the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet have cut navigation channels into coastal marshes along the Gulf of Mexico. These channels have exposed wetlands to saltwater, which gradually destroys wetland habitat."

Burroughs Audubon, the National Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy, and the National Wildlife Federation are all partnering with the Environmental Defense Fund in a national effort to restore Louisiana's coastal wetlands and to help protect people, birds and wildlife from the effects of hurricanes and climate change.

We encourage you, as a Burroughs Audubon member, to become actively involved in the Missouri River

Initiative to restore Louisiana's coastal wetlands. Please join us at Burroughs Audubon's General Meeting on October 5 at the Anita B. Gorman Discovery Center to learn more about these issues.

In the interim, we encourage you to:

### Contact your elected officials!

Encourage funding for coastal restoration. Let them know that restoring wetlands and coastal areas is critical to the safety of New Orleans and other coastal communities.

### Stay informed!

Learn about events by visiting National Audubon's websites for Louisiana and the Missouri River Initiative at [www.louisianacoast.audubon.org](http://www.louisianacoast.audubon.org) and [www.mri.audubon.org](http://www.mri.audubon.org). Join National Audubon Society's Facebook page and receive updates on efforts in Louisiana and other issues. You can also visit the Louisiana Coastal Initiative website at [www.louisianacoast.audubon.org](http://www.louisianacoast.audubon.org). For additional information, please contact:

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National Audubon Society  
Vice President  
Louisiana Coastal Initiative  
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(225) 768-0820  
[pkemp@audubon.org](mailto:pkemp@audubon.org)

Bruce Reid  
National Audubon Society  
Director of Conservation Outreach  
Mississippi River Initiative  
1208 Washington Street  
Vicksburg MS 39183  
(601) 661.6189  
[breid@audubon.org](mailto:breid@audubon.org)

### Tell a friend!

This is a national effort to save a national resource. Please encourage your friends and families to take part.

## In Memory

*From Ed McCullough, Past President, Burroughs Audubon*



*(Pictured left) Group visit to Maritime Forest on Grand Isle, Louisiana; (Pictured right) Michael O'Keefe, Heidi Retherford, Nic Allen, and Jill DeWitt*



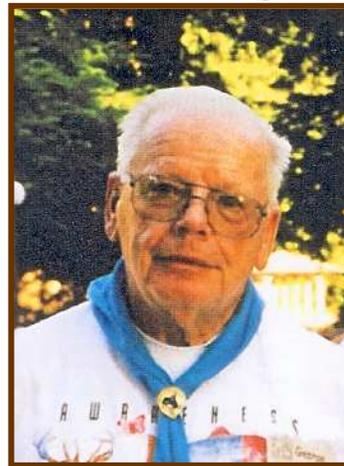
On June 10, 2010, we lost a great champion with the passing of George Scheil, 86, of Raytown, Missouri. George, along with his wife of 65 years, Alice, have been tireless volunteers for the Friends of Squaw Creek, Burroughs Audubon Society and numerous other civic and nature organizations.

While George and Alice have been named "Volunteer of the Year" multiple times by the groups they have been involved in, those awards are still hard pressed to recognize the efforts they put forth and more importantly results that they have achieved.

George was THE leader in forming the Friends of Squaw Creek back in 2000 after spending years in combination with thousands of volunteer hours under the National Audubon Society Adopt-A-Refuge program in conjunction with Burroughs Audubon Society. The Friends of Squaw Creek has allowed for a unification of volunteer efforts for people from Kansas City, St. Joseph and more importantly the Mound City area. George used his influence and persuasion to raise over \$300,000 in funding, almost single handedly, including an appropriation from Congress and related funds from the state that allowed for the addition of the auditorium to Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge's Headquarters and the (appropriately named) George L. Scheil Outdoor Classroom.

George was also a tireless recruiter, bringing fresh faces and energy into the conservation fold. This has helped establish a base of activism and involvement that will continue to reap the rewards of George's efforts into the future. Thanks, George! We'll miss you.

*Ed*



**In Memory Of**  
**George L. Scheil**  
**Date of Birth**  
February 22, 1924  
**Date of Death**  
June 10, 2010



*George at the dedication of the George L. Scheil Outdoor Classroom (upper right); George and Alice are recognized for their volunteer hours (bottom right.)*

## Gulf Oil Spill Update

*by Heidi Retherford*

The environmental impact of what is now reckoned as the largest oil spill in U.S. history continues to unfold. Oil is now being seen from Louisiana to Alabama, and beaches of the Florida Panhandle are now threatened with oiling.

Over 22,000 volunteers have registered with the National Audubon Society to help with the oil spill. Those with HAZMAT training, wildlife rescue experience, and unemployed local residents are being deployed first.

The Gulf oil disaster has already reached a dozen of Audubon's Important Bird Areas (IBAs) in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida, and more IBAs will soon be threatened. Their crucial importance to birds and wildlife has not only earned many of these areas recognition as IBAs, but led to their federal designation as National Seashore sites, National Wildlife Refuges and Wildlife Management Areas. Approximately 3.2 million waterfowl and shorebirds spend the winter in southern Louisiana alone, and 360 species of birds move through Louisiana's wetlands during spring or fall migration.

Preventing oil from reaching more of these sites and protecting nesting birds on beaches and in wetlands is the highest immediate conservation priority. But as the oil continues to spew, Audubon is also focused on the inevitable need for long term recovery and restoration. Audubon's current efforts in the Gulf Coast include:

- Marshalling volunteer resources to help with wildlife rescue, clean-up, and to support heroic emergency responders.
- Monitoring response efforts and guiding them toward designated Important Bird areas and sites in need of special protection.
- Researching bird and habitat impacts to inform recovery efforts.
- Leading restoration of resources along the Gulf Coast for the long-term
- Alerting the public to risks to birds and fragile resources
- Working for safer energy solutions
- Working to support sound public policy

Please visit [www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org) to make a donation to assist with this massive conservation effort!

## Fall 2010 Field Trips

Field trips are open and free to everyone. In case of inclement weather, contact the trip leader for changes. Please visit [www.burroughs.org](http://www.burroughs.org) and click on "Field Trips" for changes or for field trips posted after this newsletter was complete. Directions to each field trip are also posted on the website. Always bring comfortable footwear for hiking, binoculars, water, snacks, packed lunches, sunscreen, and FRS radios if you have them.

### Monday, September 20 at 1:30 PM ~ 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Smithville Lake Pelagic

Meet Kristi Mayo at the Camp Branch Marina. Participants will have the opportunity to view this birding hotspot from the deck of a pontoon boat for about 4 hours! Target birds will be rare gulls, phalaropes, waterfowl, and grebes. Ospreys are sure to abound. Space is limited to 18 participants, and the \$20 cost per person will cover the boat rental. Following the tour, there may be time to drive to the dam to watch the gathering gull roost.

Contact Kristy Mayo to reserve your spot at [kristi@writebirds.com](mailto:kristi@writebirds.com) or (816) 289-7828

Send a check to Kristi Mayo before September 15, 2010 to 1807 Clear Creek Dr., Kearney, MO 64060.

### Saturday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM and September 26<sup>th</sup> ~ Hitchcock Nature Center and Fontenelle Forest

Sherry Leonardo will guide us on a hawk watch weekend through Council Bluffs, Iowa and Bellevue, Nebraska! Meet at 9:00 AM on Saturday morning at the Hitchcock Center. We'll bird with a staff member and observe hawk banding in the morning. In the afternoon, we'll participate in the center's public hawk watch festivities. There will be a \$3.00 per person fee. Sunday's birding activities will be announced at Burroughs' September General Meeting and will be updated on the website.

For lodging recommendations and further information, contact Sherry Leonardo at [home172@aol.com](mailto:home172@aol.com) or (816) 763-1393

### Saturday, October 2 at 7:00 AM ~ Nodaway Valley Conservation Area

Jim Zellmer will take us to explore this Holt County Conservation Area which is new to most of us. Completed in 2002, a 4-mile stretch of the Nodaway River flows through the middle of the area, providing habitat for both migratory and resident wildlife. Meet in the commuter lot at Platte City.

For more information, contact Jim at [towhee@sbcglobal.net](mailto:towhee@sbcglobal.net) or (816) 228-3955 (Before Noon, or after 6PM)

### Saturday, October 16 at 7:00 AM ~ Haskell Baker Wetlands

Meet Nancy Leo at the Wendy's at Woodland Drive and K-10 in Lenexa. We'll carpool as much as possible, due to limited parking at the wetlands. Target species include: Le Conte's Sparrow, Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow, both Marsh and Sedge Wrens and any lingering rails. For the most part, we'll walk the gravel paths, but bring rubber boots if you want to help chase up sparrows. This is a planned half-day field trip, but we may visit other nearby areas after lunch, for those who are interested.

For more information, contact Nancy at [njleo@earthlink.net](mailto:njleo@earthlink.net) or (913) 205-8847

### Saturday, November 20 at 6:30 AM – Lyon, Coffey and Osage Counties in Kansas

We'll meet Matt Gearheart in the south-side parking lot of the Olathe Holiday Inn. We'll repeat last years' stop at BETO Junction Truck Stop for breakfast – Home of the world's largest cinnamon rolls. Extra calories will fuel a great day of birding at Melvern Reservoir, Lyon Co. State Fishing Lake, John Redmond Reservoir, and Coffey County Lake in search of Smith's Longspurs, grebes, loons, scoters, gulls, shrikes, sparrows, and Long-eared Owls. This all-day trip which will conclude with a bird-tally and finger-lickin' good barbeque (ribs highly recommended) at Guy and Mae's Tavern in Williamsburg.

For more information, contact Matt at [mgearheart@designwithinsight.com](mailto:mgearheart@designwithinsight.com) or (816) 569-0817

### Saturday, November 27 at 8:45 AM ~ Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge

To carpool from Kansas City, meet at the Wild Bird Center in Prairie Village at 7AM. This is an all day driving trip on the 13-mile auto tour route. We'll witness multitudes of Snow Geese and waterfowl, as well as dozens of Bald Eagles. After lunch, we'll make another pass around the refuge or explore other nearby areas, such as Big Lake State Park. Please dress in layers as conditions at Squaw Creek can be as much as 10 degrees colder and windier.

For more information, contact Mike at [mstoakes@juno.com](mailto:mstoakes@juno.com) or 816-554-1956.

## Burroughs Audubon Nature Center and Library

7300 West Park Road ~ Blue Springs, Missouri

Visit our new bird sanctuary! New bird sanctuary  
New Feeding Stations \* New Merchandise

### Hours

Tuesdays ~ 12:30 PM until 4:30 PM

Thursdays through Saturdays ~ 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Sundays ~ 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

## Wild Bird Center Bird Walks

Led by Mike Stoakes

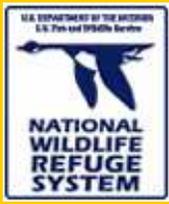
4046 W. 83rd Street ~ Prairie Village, KS

Join us on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month on a free bird walk to help you identify birds in our own area! Meet us in the parking lot of the Wild Bird Center at 8:00 AM.

September 4, 2010 ~ Iron Woods Park

October 2, 2010 ~ Shawnee Mission Park

November 27, 2010 ~ Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge



# SQUAW CREEK

## Calendar of Events

**August 23**

Open House and Cancellation Stamp Event  
Headquarters ~ 9AM to 3PM

World Premier

NEW Squaw Creek DVD  
Mound City Theater~ 9:00 PM

**September 12 & September 18**

Monarch Tagging  
9:30 AM and 1:00 PM

**September 18**

Refuge Volunteer Workday 9:00 AM

**September 25**

Refuge Habitat Workday 9:00 AM

**October 9**

5K Run/Walk  
Registration is at 9:00 AM  
Run/Walk starts at 10:00 AM

Family Day 10:00 AM  
*75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and fun-filled events*

**October 9 – December 5**

Headquarters open on weekends  
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**October 10**

The Big Sit!

**October 10 – 16**

National Wildlife Refuge Week

**October 16**

75th Anniversary Celebration  
Volunteer Recognition Picnic

**October 23 & November 6**

Refuge Volunteer Workdays 9:00 AM

### We Need You!

Volunteers in the greater Kansas City area are now being coordinated for the fall calendar above. Volunteers are needed on the weekends from October 9 until December 5 to help greet visitors and sell items in the gift shop. Volunteers will also be needed for the Eagle Days Food Booth, where all proceeds benefit Friends of Squaw Creek. Please contact Christine Kline at [birdsecretary@comcast.net](mailto:birdsecretary@comcast.net) or (816) 540-3515 if you can volunteer just one day this fall!

[www.squawcreek.org](http://www.squawcreek.org)  
**Burroughs Audubon**  
is a friend of Squaw Creek



## Squaw Creek marks 75th

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### Anniversary by Ronald Bell, Manager

*Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge*

Dear Friends,

Monday, August 23rd will mark the 75th Anniversary of Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge. On this day, we'll have an open house with punch and cake. A Post Office employee will be on hand to sell guests a special Cancellation Stamp. Cancellations come in a huge variety of designs, shapes, sizes, and colors; you'll have to attend to see what ours looks like. If you're not familiar with the term "cancellation stamp," it's a postal marking that is applied over a stamp when you mail a letter that prevents a stamp from being used more than once. Books have been put together that feature photos, memos, and letters from the past 75 years. It's a history of Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge that will provide much entertainment. In the evening at 9:00 PM, we will have the "world premier" of our new video at the Mound City Theater. A red carpet, limousine, photographers, and lights will make the world premier feel like a real Hollywood red carpet event! We'll have a gift for each person who attends, as well as a schedule of the events for the remainder of the year. On Saturday, October 16th, we will have a Volunteer Recognition Picnic and we'll be announcing our Volunteer of the Year. We'll also have another 75th anniversary celebration with former employees of Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge, regional personnel, partners, friends, congressional and state representatives, and visitors. Please come and help us celebrate at both events!



#### ABOUT WORKDAYS:

*Workday activities are weather dependent and may be canceled due to inclement weather. Please call Corey Kudrna (816) 383-0043 to inquire about cancellations.*

*Safety is a primary concern for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. For this reason, on all workdays, volunteers will need to wear work boots, long sleeve shirts, and long pants.*

# Birdathon Update: Roadrunners Identify Most Birds

by Paul Habiger

In the all day category with 128 species, the Roadrunners with team members Mike Stoakes, Gary Johnson, Don Stout and Paul Habiger won the friendly competition by identifying the most bird species in the 2010 Burroughs Audubon Birdathon. The results for the other teams were the Waxwing Warriors with team members Shari Harden, Sherry Leonardo, Lori Lind, Michael O'Keefe, and Karen Stair with 114 species and the Girlie Birders with team members Laura Robinson, Susan Rohrmeier, Sara Scheil, Becky Selzer, and Barbara VanVleck with a total of 103 species.

This year we had a team entry in the part day Birdathon category. The Lesser Yellowlegs team with members David Butel, Marshall Coleman, Paul Habiger, Gary Johnson, Hilda Mendez, and Heidi Retherford had a very wet day birding but still managed to identify 82 species. The area they covered was limited to the Greater Kansas City area.

Due to the wet stormy weather encountered by the teams on their count days, species total were less than the past years. Never the less, the teams altogether identified 164 different species with eight of the species being on Audubon's Red Watch List. Species on the "Red List" are declining rapidly and/or have very small populations or limited ranges, and face major conservation threats. These typically are species of global conservation concern.

Birdathon was again, a very successful fundraiser just as in years past. Pledges raised by the teams have totaled more than \$2500 to date. Thanks to all for your generous support of Burroughs Audubon.



September 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup> ~ ASM Fall Meeting  
Camp Clover Point, Lake of the Ozarks State Park



October 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> ~ KOS Fall Meeting  
Johnson County Community College, Overland Park, Kansas

*Easy to use, user friendly!*

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*Are you wondering if a  
field trip has been  
cancelled due  
to the weather?*

Burroughs Audubon is your  
greater Kansas City chapter of  
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