

## 4 Field Trips

### Jerry Smith Park Woodcock Walk

Whether you call it a mudsnipe, bogsucker, or timberdoodle, the American Woodcock has a fascinating courtship display. You'll need a flashlight so that you can see the magnificent displays. Join us on a short hike to an overlook where we'll most likely see these birds display at dusk. Some hiking over unpaved ground may be necessary. (Meet us at the parking lot at the top of the hill.)

**Larry Rizzo at [larry.rizzo@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:larry.rizzo@mdc.mo.gov) or (816) 655-6254, ext. 246**

*(We do ask that regardless of weather, you call our leader after 12:00 PM for confirmation of this trip.)*

**Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM**

### Sandhill Cranes and Waterfowl on Nebraska's Platte River

A migratory spectacle not to be missed! We'll view cranes as they leave their roosts in the morning and return to the river in the evening. On one of the mornings, we'll get up early to view Greater Prairie Chickens on a lek. We'll also bird Funk Lagoon and some of the surrounding Rainwater Basin areas. We'll leave at 8:00 AM on Friday and return by 6:00 PM on Sunday. We ask that you arrange your own lodging Kearney, Nebraska. Please R.S.V.P. so that we can keep you informed of a meeting place on Friday.

**Craig Hensley at [rcraig.hensley@gmail.com](mailto:rcraig.hensley@gmail.com) or (913) 299-2384**

**March 23 to 25, 2012**

### Ernie Miller Nature Center and Kill Creek Park

Take an early spring walk to look for sparrows, finches, and other songbirds. We'll also check out the habitat at Kill Creek Park to help establish a bird list for this newer Johnson County regional park.

**Pat St. John at [pstjohn@kumc.edu](mailto:pstjohn@kumc.edu) or (913) 706-5569**

**Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> @ 8:00 AM**

### Fountain Grove Conservation Area and Pershing State Park

If you follow the Missouri LISTSERVE, you know that Steve Kinder birds these areas extensively. They are rich with habitat diversity from wetlands and forest tracts to grasslands and old fields. So, who better than to help us find waterfowl and early migrants like pipits and plovers. Meet us in the Liberty commuter lot at the Excelsior Springs exit (I-35 and US 69 Hwy) for carpooling.

**Mike Stoakes at [mstoakes@juno.com](mailto:mstoakes@juno.com) or (816) 554-1956**

**Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 AM**

### Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge

*NEW! First trip in our mid-week field trip series*

Sunrise is at 6:12AM so we're starting the day early! Meet us at the Headquarters' parking lot at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge. We'll start birding the wooded areas around the parking lot then proceed to the auto tour route. Spring migration will be underway and current habitat conditions are looking promising for shorebirds. Depending upon refuge conditions and amount of participants, we may be able to hit some of the back areas that are typically off limits.

**Christine Kline at [birdsecretary@comcast.net](mailto:birdsecretary@comcast.net) or (816) 540-3515**

**Wednesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 AM**

### Van Meter State Park and Grand Pass Conservation Area

We're going to start off in the morning birding the campground, boardwalk, and adjacent trail at VanMeter State Park to look for migrating songbirds. Then, after lunch, we'll look for shorebirds, rails, and waterfowl at Grand Pass Conservation Area. Meet us at the commuter lot on the north side of Price Chopper at Highway 7 and I70 in Blue Springs.

**Sherry Leonardo at [home172@aol.com](mailto:home172@aol.com) or (816) 763-1393**

**Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 6:30 AM**

### Haskell-Baker Wetlands

*NEW! Second trip in our mid-week field trip series*

If you've never birded Haskell Baker Wetlands, it's a very easy hike through wetlands that provide great opportunities to see shorebirds, warblers, ducks, herons, and sparrows. Roger Boyd and his son, Jonathan, represent the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> generation of Boyds to manage the Baker Wetlands. So, this trip is sure to promise a plethora of birds! Meet us at the Wendy's at K10 and Woodland Road. We'll need to carpool as much as possible due to limited parking at the wetlands.

**Sherry Leonardo at [home172@aol.com](mailto:home172@aol.com) or (816) 763-1393**

**Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 AM**

### Watkins Mill State Park

*New! Third trip in our mid-week field trip series*

The wooded trails around Watkins Mill are a favorite stop-over for migrating warblers. Meet us in the north parking area of the park along Watkins Road. For detailed directions, visit our website.

**Kristi Mayo at [kristi@writebirds.com](mailto:kristi@writebirds.com)**

**Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 AM**

### Weston Bend State Park

Weston Bend State Park is part of the Iatan/Weston River Corridor IBA. It lies between two migratory flyways, the Central Flyway and the Mississippi Flyway. So, it never disappoints in spring as warblers, flycatchers, tanagers, and vireos stop over. It has been a premier spot in past years. Meet us at the hike/bike parking lot.

**Nancy Leo at [njleo@earthlink.net](mailto:njleo@earthlink.net) or (913) 205-8847**

**Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 AM**

### Painted Buntings at Clinton Lake

*New! Fourth trip in our mid-week field trip series*

Painted Buntings have been breeding residents around Clinton Lake in Douglas County, Kansas for the past several years. Join us as we attempt to locate these beautiful and furtive songbirds near Lawrence, Kansas on the west side of the lake. Meet us at Wendy's at Woodland Drive and K10 in Lenexa.

**Mike Stoakes at [mstoakes@juno.com](mailto:mstoakes@juno.com) or (816) 554-1956**

**Wednesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 AM**

## 5 Citizen Science Activities

### Bird Banding! Dana Ripper & Ethan Duke ~ Missouri River Bird Observatory

near Van Meter State Park and Grand Pass Conservation Area

*Meet us at 5:45 AM at the Blue Springs commuter lot on the north side of Price Chopper at Highway 7 & I70*

**Wednesday, May 16, 2012 @ 5:45 AM**

### Bird Census ~ Blue River Parkway

Help Don Arney conduct a bird census at the height of spring migration.

*Meet us at the parking lot near the Minor Park tennis courts.*

**Friday, May 18, 2012 @ 7:00 AM**



## SPECIAL EVENTS

**Native Plant Sale ~ Burroughs Audubon Bird Sanctuary & Library**

**Audubon Society of Missouri Spring Meeting ~ Joplin, MO**

**Kansas Ornithological Society Spring Meeting ~ Ottawa, KS**

**Wings Over Weston ~ Weston Bend State Park**

**Native Plant Sale ~ Weston Bend State Park**

**April 21, 2012**

**April 27 through April 29, 2012**

**May 4 through May 6, 2012**

**May 12, 2012**

**May 10 through 12, 2012**





# Burroughs Audubon

Greater Kansas City Chapter of the National Audubon Society

**Burroughs Audubon ~ The Greater Kansas City Chapter of the National Audubon Society  
7300 West Park Road ~ Blue Springs, MO 64015**

Dear members, birders, and friends,

Welcome to our new format. We believe it is a compromise that will satisfy both the member who wants us to go green and the member who still wants something tangible. This shortened two-page format offers you everything Burroughs Audubon that is free. Everything in this new two-page format is free! So, share it with your friends. As Burroughs Audubon strives to open up the world of birding to our youth through Wings Over Weston and the Robert G. Fisher Youth Education Fund, we wholeheartedly encourage you to help us in this endeavor. Bring a niece, nephew, grandson, granddaughter, sister, or brother and join us!

We are still offering a full newsletter online at [www.burroughs.org](http://www.burroughs.org) for those of you who enjoy the little extras. Posting it online rather than in print is allowing us to add some extras such as links to National Audubon and some of our friends' and partners' websites. We look forward to seeing you!

## 1 Programs

**Tuesday, March 6, 2012**

**Native Plantings for Birds ~ Alan Branhagen, Director of Horticulture – Powell Gardens**

Whether you have a large farm or a small yard, native plants offer the best sources of food, shelter and nesting habitat to attract birds to your property. Attend this program for some great ideas on what you can plant for a home that sings with a spirit of place.

**Saturday, April 14, 2012 ~ 5:30 PM (Social) & 6:00 PM (Dinner)**

**92<sup>nd</sup> Burroughs Audubon Annual Dinner ~ Country Club Christian Church in Kansas City, Missouri**

**Dr. Stephen Kress, Vice President for Bird Conservation – National Audubon Society**

Tickets are \$35 per person or \$60 for two and catering is by Room 39. Please send your check to Burroughs Audubon Attn: Treasurer 7300 West Park Road, Blue Springs, Missouri 64015. This year's speaker is Dr. Stephen Kress, Director of Audubon's Seabird Restoration Program, who has developed techniques for managing colonial nesting seabirds. He manages 13 coastal islands that span the region from Cape Elizabeth to Mount Desert Island. These islands are home to more than 42,000 seabirds of 27 species and each year his program trains about 20 interns. Hundreds of professional seabird biologists can trace their first interest in seabirds to Project Puffin - Dr. Kress' successful initiative to repopulate Maine's long extinct puffin nesting islands. Methods first developed in Maine such as chick translocations and social attraction are now standard practice for seabird conservation worldwide. Dr. Kress received his Ph.D. from Cornell University and his Master's and undergraduate degrees from Ohio State University.

**Tuesday, May 1, 2012**

**Down the Road from Rachel Carson: From Hog Island to Where We Are Today ~ Jan Alderson, Environmental Educator**

A discussion of flora and fauna of coastal Maine (especially birds) and insights from the Audubon workshop *Sharing Nature: An Educator's Week*. This program will be of interest to anyone who believes that engaging children with nature is the key to protecting our land, water, and species in the future. Special door prize drawings and a donation to Burroughs Audubon Society will also be announced!

## 2 Bird Walks leaving from Prairie Village

Join us on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month as Mike Stoakes takes you on a free two to three hour bird walk to help you identify birds in our own area. Dress for the weather and meet us in the parking lot of the Wild Bird Center at 8:00 AM where we'll return afterwards. Questions? (913) 381-5633

**March 3, 2012 ~ Mill Creek Streamway  
April 7, 2012 ~ Antioch Park  
May 5, 2012 ~ Overland Park Arboretum**

Wild Bird Center  
4046 W. 83<sup>rd</sup> Street ~ Prairie Village, Kansas



## Bird Walks leaving from Independence

Join Michael O'Keefe is a personable and knowledgeable birder who embraces nature and the birds that frequent our area. Join him for field trips and bird walks that leave from the Wild Bird Center in Independence, Missouri. For each trip, call the store for details on times and additional details. Questions? (913) 478-9399

**March 12, 2012 ~ Woodcock Walk  
April 7, 2012 ~ Squaw Creek NWR  
May 5, 2012 ~ To Be Announced**

Wild Bird Center  
4480 S. Noland Road ~ Independence, Missouri



## 3 Connecting with Nature at the Burroughs Audubon Library

**Sunday, March 11, 2012 ~ 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM  
Bird in the Hand**

Join us for an afternoon of up close "beak to nose" looks at songbirds that visit the feeders in our bird sanctuary.

**Sunday, April 15, 2012 ~ 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM  
Spring Wildflower Walk**

Join us for a walk through the woods and around the Esther O'Connor Wildflower Prairie in search of spring wildflowers from Bluebells to Wild Indigo.

**Sunday, May 13, 2012 ~ 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM  
Bird in the Hand**

It's going to be a very special morning of bird banding at Burroughs Audubon. Why? Because we'll have mist nets set throughout the area in hopes of capturing a wide variety of songbirds from orioles and buntings to warblers.



Come on out to Burroughs Audubon Library and Nature Center and enjoy the birds from picture windows that overlook our bird sanctuary. Burroughs Audubon offers a nature shop full of books, guides, feeders, and seed and a full nature library with over 6,000 books that are available for reading and check out.

1:00 PM to 5:00 PM every day except Monday and Wednesday

Hours are 100% dependent upon volunteers so please call us before making the trip at (816) 795-8177

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Linda Byrd (816) 478-4521

Thank you volunteers!