

# 4 Field Trips

For all field trips, please contact the trip leader to see if there are any last minute changes that may have occurred due to inclement weather. You may also 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. For all field trips, bring comfortable footwear for hiking, binoculars, water or beverages, snacks, sunscreen/insect repellent, and FRS radios if you have them. All trips involve walking on both dirt and/or paved trails. Bring lunch for day trips.

**Dunn Ranch and Pawnee Prairie Natural Area** **Sunday, June 3, 2012 at 6:00 AM**  
Join us as we search for species such as Upland Sandpiper, Black-billed Cuckoo, Sedge Wren, Henslow's and Grasshopper Sparrows, and Bobolinks. Meet us in the Liberty commuter lot at I-35 and US 69 Hwy. (Excelsior Springs exit) for carpooling. Full day/moderate walking.  
**Mike Stoakes at [mstoakes@juno.com](mailto:mstoakes@juno.com) or (816) 554-1956**

**Skyline Drive and Mt. Mitchell Heritage Prairie** **Saturday, June 23, 2012 at 5:15 AM**  
Elizabeth Petroske, a member of the Kansas Native Plant Society, along with Pat St. John, will take us to explore the Flint Hills looking for blooming prairie wild flowers and birds. Meet us in the commuter parking lot at I-70 and K-7 for carpooling. Upland Sandpipers, Common Nighthawks, and other prairie species are sure to be encountered. Be prepared to travel on the KS Turnpike. Full day/moderate walking.  
**Pat St. John at [pstjohn@kumc.edu](mailto:pstjohn@kumc.edu) or (913) 706-5569**

**Olathe Prairie Center and Kill Creek Park** **Saturday, August 11 at 7:30 AM**  
Nic Allen, avid birder and county lister will take us to the 300-acre tall grass preserve and education site, known simply as the Prairie Center, with trails that wind through remnant and re-established prairie and riparian woodlands. Some of the species that we hope to find include the Yellow-breasted Chat, Eastern Towhee, Grasshopper Sparrow, Dickcissel, and Blue Grosbeak. For those who wish to continue after lunch, we'll visit Kill Creek Park, the newest and third regional park in Johnson County Parks & Recreation District's extensive system. Here, we hope to find various herons and egrets, raptors, migrating shorebirds, swallows, and Great-tailed Grackles. Meet us in the Prairie Center parking area at Santa Fe (135th St.) and Cedar Niles Road. (From I-35 take Santa Fe (exit 218) and go 5.25 miles west to Cedar Niles Road.) Hiking/uneven terrain.  
**Nic Allen at [tendingthegarden@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tendingthegarden@sbcglobal.net) or (913) 375-8030**

**Quivira National Wildlife Refuge & Cheyenne Bottoms** **August 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>, 2012**  
Rob Penner, Kansas Avian Programs and Cheyenne Bottoms Preserve Manager will help us find shorebirds as they begin their post-breeding migration and stop-over in these two internationally important wetlands. This is a two-day trip so participants are responsible for their own overnight lodging arrangements in Great Bend, KS. For those who wish to caravan to Great Bend, meet at 6:00 AM in Bonner Springs at the K-7 and I-70 commuter parking lot. Additionally, carpooling arrangements must be made since vehicles cannot remain overnight in the commuter lot. For those driving on their own, meet at the Kansas Wetlands Education Center at Cheyenne Bottoms at 10:30 AM on Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. Primarily auto tour.  
**Pat St. John at [pstjohn@kumc.edu](mailto:pstjohn@kumc.edu) or (913) 706-5569**

# 5 Citizen Science Activities

**Breeding Resident Census ~ Blue River Parkway** **Saturday, June 16, 2012 at 7:00 AM**  
Help Don Arney conduct a bird census to determine which breeding residents are utilizing the restored natural area and bottomlands along the Blue River. Meet us at 7:00 AM at the parking lot near the Minor Park tennis courts.  
Don Arney [sora@kc.rr.com](mailto:sora@kc.rr.com) or (816) 931-8356

**Breeding Resident Census ~ Jerry Smith Park** **Saturday, July 14, 2012 at 7:00 AM**  
KC Wildlands has requested that we perform a seasonal census of this mostly undeveloped city park. Meet us in the small gravel lot at the top of the ridge.  
(Directions: go south on Holmes Rd. to 139th St., turn east and go approximately ½ mile to the 2<sup>nd</sup> drive on the left).  
Sherry Leonardo [home172@aol.com](mailto:home172@aol.com) or (816) 763-1393

**North American Butterfly Count ~ Powell Gardens** **Saturday, July 28, 2012 at 9:00 AM**  
The North American Butterfly Association's Butterfly Count is an ongoing program to census the butterflies of North America (United States, Canada and partially Mexico) and to publish the results. Volunteer participants select a count area with a 15-mile diameter and conduct a one-day census of all butterflies sighted within that circle. Morning participants will be divided into teams to count and at 11:00 AM, a butterfly catch-and-release is scheduled. Afternoon participants will travel the Byron Schutz Nature Trail to count.  
A \$3 NABA participation fee will be collected for both counts. Burroughs Audubon members who show their membership cards may have the entrance fee to Powell Gardens waived. Please contact the trip leader for verification of this.  
Alan Branhagan at [abranhagen@powellgardens.org](mailto:abranhagen@powellgardens.org) or (816) 697-2600, ext. 241

**7<sup>th</sup> Annual North American Butterfly Count ~ Martha LaFite Thompson Nature Center** **Sunday, June 24, 2012 at 9:00 AM**  
We will be counting butterflies in a 15-mile diameter circle for the North American Butterfly Association. We will count at the nature sanctuary, Cooley Lake Conservation Area, Watkins Mill State Park, and other areas as time permits. We usually conclude by 5:00 p.m. Join us for part or all of the day. Bring your lunch and drinks (we will save some time this year by having a small picnic), insect repellent, sunscreen, binoculars. You might want to wear long pants if the grass is high at Cooley.  
Please RSVP to Linda Williams at [lwilliams@kc.rr.com](mailto:lwilliams@kc.rr.com) or (816) 536-5001



Turn Your Passion for Nature into Service

A partnership of the Missouri Department of Conservation and University of Missouri Extension

[www.gkcmn.com](http://www.gkcmn.com)

Missouri Master Naturalists  
Share Energy and Knowledge

Are you the kind of person that stops to listen to a bird singing in the trees? Does the movement of a caterpillar inching along a leaf catch your eye? You possess the curiosity and interest in nature that a Missouri Master Naturalist holds dear.

A joint venture between the University of Missouri Extension and the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Missouri Master Naturalist Program is a volunteer service organization dedicated to conservation and education of our state's natural resources. An Osage Trail's Chapter naturalist may serve volunteer hours helping out at any of the 17 partner organizations in the Kansas City area – including Burroughs Audubon. For example, a naturalist may help with a children's program or cut down the invasive bush honeysuckle vegetation. Naturalist volunteers were present recently at Smithville Eagle Days sharing knowledge of the amazing visit of the Snowy Owls with visitors. The tasks are limitless. In 2011, Master Naturalists in Kansas City volunteered over 6,100 hours toward conserving natural resources and sharing nature education.

**To become a Master Naturalist**, after application, about 3 months of weekly training sessions prepare you with knowledge of Missouri ecology. Each member is required to serve 40 hours of volunteer service and attend 8 hours of advanced training annually to remain certified. Monthly meetings offer inspiring programs and enjoyable social opportunities with others who share your passion for nature.

**To start the application process**, contact Stacey Davis at the Anita B. Gorman Discovery Center; (816) 759-7300; [stacey.davis@mdc.gov](mailto:stacey.davis@mdc.gov). The Orientation Meeting is June 5, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at the Anita B. Gorman Discovery Center at 4750 Troost in Kansas City, Missouri.

# WingBeat

*All that is free!*

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



## Inside:

- 1 Free Programs
- 2 Free Bird Walks
- 3 Free Library Programs
- 4 Free Field Trips
- 5 Free Citizen Science Opportunities

## 1 Programs

**Tuesday, June 5, 2012**

**Missouri's Natural Communities and Their Birds ~ Mike Leahy, Natural Areas Coordinator – Missouri Department of Conservation**

This June program could not have been better planned since it directly coincides with May's festival, Wings Over Weston. Mike will discuss how our breeding and migratory bird species interact with natural communities such as forests, glades, prairies, and marshes. He'll also share how knowledge and conservation of these communities is a great strategy to conserving our bird life.

**Please note, no general meetings will be held in July or August. Meetings and programs will resume in September.**

**If you have a suggestion for a future Burroughs Audubon General Meeting or a speaker you would like to hear, please contact Elizabeth Stoakes, Program Coordinator at (816) 554-1956 or [lizkvet@yahoo.com](mailto:lizkvet@yahoo.com).**

## 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

**June 2, 2012 ~ Unity Village**

**July 7, 2012 ~ Swope Park & Lakeside Nature Center**

**August 4, 2012 ~ Wilderness Valley Wetlands**

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

**June 16, 2012 ~ Burr Oak Woods**

**July 21, 2012 ~ Waterfall Park**

**August 18, 2012 ~ James A. Reed Memorial Wildlife Area**

Wild Bird Center  
4480 S. Noland Road  
Independence, Missouri



## 3 Connecting with Nature at the Burroughs Audubon Library



**Sunday June 10, 2012 ~ 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM**

**What's Out at Night?**

Have you ever wondered what's going on in your backyard at night while sensible people are sleeping? There are critters, you see. The opossum shuffles through your yard and bats fly overhead. There are critters, you hear. The owls and mosquitoes are everywhere. There are even critters you have heard of but have never seen, like the flying squirrels! Join Debbie Barker as she talks about nightlife and shows you real artifacts ranging from skulls to 50,000 year old bat guano.



**Sunday, July 15, 2012 ~ 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM**

**Rap'n Bout Reptiles**

Bring the family and join Missouri Master Naturalist, Barbara Van Vleck to learn more about these fascinating animals – the snakes, lizards, and turtles of Missouri. Can the hoop snake kill with its tail? How can you tell if a swimming snake is venomous or non-venomous? Can you tell if a snake skin was from a venomous or non-venomous snake? How does a turtle breathe while it hibernates for months under water?

**Please note, no programs at the library will be held in August. Programs will resume in September.**

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 Karen Smith (816) 225-8757 Thank you volunteers!