



Greater Kansas City Chapter of the National Audubon Society

WingBeat

Fall 2013

TRIP ALERT

Smithville Pelagic Update - I only have a couple of checks. If you are coming, please let me know and get your check to me. If I don't have many more takers by Monday I will cancel one of the boats. If we don't fill a boat, we will have to cancel the trip.

Sunday, September 22 – Ninth Annual Smithville Lake Pelagic with Mary Nemecek. This trip is limited to 18 people. Reservations with payment to cover boat rental (\$22.00 per person/checks payable to Mary) should be sent by Sept. 18 to: Mary Nemecek, 7807 N. Merrimac, Kansas City, MO 64151. Meet at Noon in the parking lot across from Camp Branch Marina to carpool to the marina (new \$5.00 per vehicle day use fee). Trip will run from 12:30 to, approximately, 4:30 p.m. Target birds include rare gulls, phalaropes, waterfowl, and grebes. **IMPORTANT NOTES:** Boats will not be taken out in high winds, or if there is lightning in the area. If weather cancels the boat trip, we'll try to bird on foot and by car around the lake. This trip will not be rescheduled. Deposits will be refunded or donated to Burroughs Audubon Society. For more information, contact Mary at 816-210-5148

PATON HOUSE FUNDRAISER

SILENT AUCTIONS!

Cleaning house?

Received a White Elephant bird related gift?

Save items to donate to Burroughs for fund raising conservation projects!

Oct 1. General Meeting, Kansas side, 6pm...

April (5), tentative date....Annual Silent Auction & Dinner

Contact Marilyn Koshland, mkoshland@comcast.net for pick up info!

Give and Bid! FUN! FUN! FUN!

[Pick the date] [Edition 1, Volume 1]

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

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Join us on the Web at

www.burroughs.org

Or on



at

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Burroughs-Audubon-Society-of-Greater-Kansas-City/268831379706>



Magnetic Car sign for the Public to know what you are doing, when you are out Birding.

It was suggested we offer these signs for anyone interested in putting them on their car.

When we get enough interest we will put in an order.

They will cost \$11 per 17.58" x 11.48" sign for orders of 40.

Send emails to brinkteam@realtor.com to indicate your interest in obtaining 1 or more signs.

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

By Keith Brink

We have finally taking the last step into the Digital Age and we couldn't have done it without your help.

We are now doing more conservation work with that money and saving a lot of trees in the process. One of our partners – the Missouri River Bird Observatory (MRBO) got their contribution doubled because of this savings. Other organizations will be added that are identified and deemed necessary for our consideration.

**This was only possible with your help
in making the transition to a digital newsletter! 😊**

If you could just go to www.burroughs.org and click on membership then click on manage your membership services you can update your membership information 24/7. You can update your name or names, address, phone number and e-mail address. If you need help with this, just call me at 816-365-9497 and I will help you through the process.

You will still be able to print, save and read your copy of the newsletter from the e-mail and from the website.

**I go to nature
to be soothed
and healed, and
to have my
senses put
in order.**

John Burroughs

ANNUAL DINNER AND AUCTION

The annual dinner and auction went very well this past April and we will be having another great dinner tentatively set for April 5, 2014. Details to follow in the next newsletter, so mark your calendars now!

HONOR GARDEN

Plans have been drawn for an exciting new landscaping project, an honor garden, at the Burroughs Audubon nature center and library!

Now is the time to make a donation!

One can honor a birthday or an event for a loved one, make a donation in memory, or donate in appreciation of a Burroughs member while helping us beautify our new water garden and expand our native plant gardens.

Be part of the action!

All donors will have a permanent installation at the library.

Help us grow!

Send donations to:

Marcia Hawk

3616 Saddle Ridge Dr. Independence, MO 64057

The recipient or his family will be notified of your donation.

NEW BURROUGHS WEBSITE

Update on a slight delay for the new website. This fall we will be updating the Burroughs Audubon Website to be easier to navigate, have a more sleek and professional appearance and to make it more mobile device friendly. This work should be finished by late October, so check back often and let us know what you think.

If you have any suggestions or would like to help proof it, just email me at brinkteam@realtor.com and we'll talk about what you would like to see.

I also need photos from some of our outstanding nature photographers, so send those to me and I'll do my best to implement them into the website and give you credit for them.

Thanks everyone for being helpful and patient while we get fully up to date in this digital and Social Media age.

CONSERVATION MATTERS

Draw the Line to Save the Missouri River!

Draw the Line on Keystone XL day of action starting at 10am on Saturday, September 21 at the City Market. We are planning to march with a mock tar sands pipeline from the park on the west side of the City Market to the bike path on the Heart of America Bridge, where we're determined to form a line spanning the entire width of the Missouri River.

Jill DeWitt, Conservation Co-chair

GENERAL MEETINGS

GENERAL MEETINGS BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 6:45 PM; REFRESHMENTS SERVED AT 6:15 PM. OUR FALL 2013 MEETINGS (SEPT-NOV) WILL BE HELD AT THE JOHNSON COUNTY LIBRARY (ANTIOCH BRANCH) 8700 SHAWNEE MISSION PARKWAY, MERRIAM, KS 66202.

October 1, 2013: “eBird: The Basics and Beyond” with Jon King, eBird Reviewer. Every birder can benefit from using eBird! This program will cover data entry on the site, the review process when sightings are reported, and the variety of uses made of eBird data. Bring your questions!

November 5, 2013: Burroughs President, Keith Brink, will deliver a wrap up of July's Audubon Convention 2013 which he attended at the Skamania Lodge Convention Center in Stevenson, WA.

December 3, 2013: Holiday Dinner and Get together at the Lakeside Nature Center Lodge in Swope Park. Details on time, dining and cost to follow in the near future.

Do you have a speaker or a topic that you would like to see featured at a future BAS meeting?

Please contact Program Coordinators Elizabeth Stoakes (816-554-1956) or Nancy Clark (913-268-7376).

FIELD TRIPS

OCTOBER 2013

Saturday, October 12 through Sunday, October 13 - Hawk watch and Saw-whet Owl banding at Hitchcock Nature Center in Honey Creek, IA.

Hitchcock is one of the premier hawk watch sites in the Midwest. Meet at 6:00 a.m. in the commuter lot in Platte City to caravan together (carpooling is strongly encouraged, but must be arranged ahead of time because cars CANNOT be left overnight in the commuter lot), or travel to Hitchcock on your own. Directions: travel north of Council Bluffs, Iowa on I-29 to exit 61A. Turn right (east) on County Rd. 988 (Old Mormon Bridge Rd.) and continue to intersection with Old Lincoln Highway. Turn left (north) on Old Lincoln Hwy. and continue 4.4 miles to Page Lane. Turn left and follow sign to park entrance. We should arrive at Hitchcock around 9:30 a.m. where we'll divide our time between the hawk watch tower and the hawk banding station. Lunch will be at a nice deli/cafe in nearby Honey Creek. We'll depart Hitchcock around 3:30 p.m. for lodging check-in, dinner in Council Bluffs, and birding at Lake Manawa where we've seen Western Grebe, Sabine's Gull and Parasitic Jaeger on previous trips. On Saturday evening, participants will have the option of returning to Hitchcock to observe Northern Saw-whet Owl banding. We'll sleep in a little on Sunday morning, eat breakfast, and bird either Riverton Wildlife Area in Iowa, or Squaw Creek NWR on the drive home (depending on conditions at Riverton). Participants are responsible for arranging their own lodging in Council Bluffs. For additional info, or help with carpooling and lodging recommendations, please contact Sherry Leonardo at 816-718-5888 or home172@aol.com.

Wednesday, October 16 - Martha Laffite Thompson Nature Sanctuary (MLTNS) and Cooley Lake Conservation Area with Keith Brink.

Join Keith on this half-day trip to look for migrant waterfowl and songbirds. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in the parking area on Dillon Rd. (next to quonset hut shed) at Cooley Lake Conservation Area. After checking out this area, we'll proceed to MLTNS to look for fall migrants and any early arriving winter immigrants. Contact Keith by phone or email at 816-365-9497 or brinkteam1984@yahoo.com with any questions.

Sunday, October 20 - Baker Wetlands and Clinton Lake Outlet Park with

Nick Varvel. For carpooling, meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Wendy's restaurant at Woodland Drive and K-10 in Lenexa. Directions: take I-435 to KS Hwy.10. Take K-10 west to Woodland Dr. Turn right (north) and go to Wendy's/convenience store entrance. Target species include: Le Conte's Sparrow, Nelson's Sparrow, both Marsh and Sedge Wrens, Franklin's Gull, and any lingering rails. For the most part, we'll walk the boardwalk and the gravel and mowed 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 more information, contact Nick at or 913-827-3359 or nvarvel@gmail.com.

NOVEMBER 2013

Sunday, November 3 - Jerry Smith Park Fall Bird Census with Sherry

Leonardo. This is one of four seasonal censuses that we perform for KC WildLands of this, mostly, undeveloped city (KCMO) park. Meet at 8:00 a.m. 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 1/2 mile to the 2nd drive on the left). Bring water and snacks. Contact Sherry Leonardo at home172@aol.com or 816-763-1393 for more info.

Wednesday, November 13 - Longview Lake with Sherry Leonardo.

Meet at 7:45 a.m. at Longview Lake Marina. We'll bird the marina, as well as areas along the hike/bike trail between the marina and beach, looking for waterfowl and other winter residents. If time allows, we'll also bird Meadowmere Park (City of Grandview) and a couple of other lake locations. Bring water and snacks, and dress for the weather. Directions to Longview Lake Marina: From I-470, take Raytown Road exit (Exit 4) and go south on Raytown Road for approximately 3 miles to Longview Road (2nd stop light). Entrance to the Marina will be on the left (marked by a sign). From I-49/71 Hwy, take the Main St. exit (Exit 179) in Grandview. Go east on Main (becomes High Grove Road) approximately 2 1/2 miles to Raytown Road (4-way stop). Turn left onto Raytown Road and go approximately 1 1/2 miles to the entrance which will be on your right. For more info, please contact Sherry at 816-763-1393 or home172@aol.com.

Saturday, November 16 - Marais des Cygne Wildlife Area and NWR with Mark Land. We'll look for year-round residents, such as Pileated Woodpecker, and winter immigrants in the woods and wetlands around the area's several pools. In addition, we'll stop at La Cygne Lake (Linn County Park), a man-made, warm water lake which is made so by its role as water source for the nearby power plant. We'll also 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. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Price Chopper on the northwest corner of 119th Street and Metcalf in Overland Park for carpooling. This trip will have minimal walking and is mainly an auto tour. Please call or email Mark at 913-381-4324 and markeland@kc.rr.com, if you have any questions.

Saturday, November 30 - Squaw Creek NWR with Mike Stoakes. This trip is in conjunction with the Prairie Village Wild Bird Center. For carpooling, meet at 7:00 a.m. at the WBC (83rd and Mission Rd. in Prairie Village), or at the Squaw Creek visitor center around 8:45 a.m. This is an all day driving trip on the Refuge's 10-mile auto tour loop. We'll witness multitudes of Snow Geese and waterfowl, as well as dozens of Bald Eagles. Bring a sack lunch, snacks, optics, field guides, and FRS radios. After lunch, we'll retrace the tour route around the loop and, possibly, visit other nearby areas. Dress in layers, as conditions are often cold and windy at this time of year. For more information, contact Mike at mstoakes@juno.com or 816-554-1956.

DECEMBER 2013

Saturday, December 7 - Lyon, Coffey and Osage Counties (KS) with Matt Gearheart. We'll meet at 7:00 a.m. in the parking lot of the Olathe Holiday Inn (south side of building). Directions: take I-35 south to 151st St./Hwy. K-7 (exit 215). Follow signs to 151st St. Turn right (west) on 151st and continue 0.17 miles to access road between Olathe Medical Center and Holiday Inn. Matt will lead us on 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. Bring food, beverages, and FRS radios for 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 or 913-568-4678.

JANUARY 2014

Wednesday, January 1 - Lake Jacomo and Fleming Park with Mike and Elizabeth Stoakes. Start the year with a bang! We'll meet at 7:30 a.m. in the parking lot of the Jackson County Parks and Recreation offices at the intersection of Liggett and Woods Chapel Roads (watch for traffic light at this 3-way intersection). We'll bird the lakes and trails throughout the park looking for winter residents and late migrants -- ducks, geese, sparrows, finches, eagles, hawks and, hopefully, some surprises! Be sure to dress for the weather and wear footwear for some light walking. If the weather is really cold, we'll warm up at the Burroughs Library. Questions? Contact Mike and Elizabeth at mstoakes@juno.com or 816-554-1956.

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Sat, November 16, 10am – 1pm

(Note: if weather is inclement, banding will be held on Sunday, November 17)

Sat, December 14, 10am – 1pm

(Note: if weather is inclement, banding will be held on Sunday, December 15)

Bird Banding with Dana Ripper and Ethan Duke of Missouri River Bird Observatory. Come see our resident winter songbirds up close and personal! Dana and Ethan will band and release birds for population studies and answer questions about their current research projects. Banding will continue monthly throughout the winter. Visit burroughs.org/library.html for details!

LIBRARY NEEDS

1. We could sure use some donations for the library. Here is short list of our wish list. Laptop computer with Mac OSX or Windows Vista (or newer) operating system for inputting titles and accessing the library's card catalog online.
2. The library is ALWAYS in need of paper towels. Gift cards for Wal-Mart and office supply stores are also welcome, to purchase needed supplies for educational programs. Clean, heavy-duty plastic storage containers (35-gal size or larger) for our bagged seed supplies would also be greatly appreciated!
3. Tax receipts are always available on request.
4. Thank you, Ruth, for your generous donation!

Our library is now open from 1-5 PM Wednesday through Sunday; closed Mondays, Tuesdays and holidays. Come out and watch birds, see our native prairie plantings, browse through our books and magazines, and shop for seed and nature-related gifts!"