YOU ARE INVITED TO EAT FREE FOOD & ENJOY THE MISSOURI RIVER!

MISSOURI RIVER BIG MUDDY BOAT RIDE & PICNIC
Thursday September 11th

Katfish Katy Campground

Meet at EBCA HQ at 5:30pm to Carpool
6PM UNTIL SUNDOWN

Back by popular demand, the September meeting will be a field trip / Big Muddy boat ride on the Missouri River and a Boone’s Lick Chapter tailgating/picnic near the boat ramp at Katfish Katy Campground.

- We will meet at Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area HQ at 5:30pm to carpool! (Carpooling was requested by Katfish Katy’s Campground because of limited site parking.)
- Please bring a cup/plate/utensils, and bring a lawn chair, and if you have one, bring a Personal Floatation Device (PFD) if you are going on the boat ride.
- PICNIC INFO: Standard picnic fare provided by the chapter will be served – hot dogs with fixin’s, baked beans, potato chips, dessert, tea & lemonade to drink. If you have special dietary restrictions, please bring your own faux dog.
- RIVER TRIP INFO: As of now, all boat ride seats are taken but you can email Suzanne Wright to be added to the waiting list in case there are cancellations. See below for a list of people that have signed up – if you are on the list but are no longer planning to go, please let Suzanne know. Even if you do not go on the boat trip, come to the picnic to enjoy good food and good company! Launch time for those going on the boat ride is 6:00 pm. Plans are to boat through Tadpole Island Chute, if river levels allow. We may also explore a sandbar if water levels allow. Appropriate field attire and footwear are
recommended. If you have your own personal flotation device (PFD), please bring it. Big Muddy will provide a limited number of PFD’s for those without.

- If you have not attended a Big Muddy Missouri River Trip in the past, you can count this for 2 hours of Advanced Training. All others can count 2 hours of volunteer time for regular chapter meeting.
- More info about Katfish Katy Campground here.
- Here is a list of those going on the boat ride, please email Suzanne Wright if you are no longer planning to go: Bonnie Hansen, Laura Sweets, Kay Conklin, Sarah Meyers, Denny O’Brien, Jan Martin, Matt Boehner, Joy Rushing, Carolyn Flynn, Cathy Harris, Laurie Bobbitt, Carolyn Doyle, Marlene Willick, Don Mueller, Linda Karns, David Bergin, Christi Bergin, Mary Embree, Phil Knocke, Jackie Harris, Jill Edwards, and Janet Lindstrum. **If you have a Personal Floatation Device, please bring it, there will be a limited supply of PFDs on the boats.**

**If you ordered a Rock Bridge History Booklet, please bring your $7 (checks to Jill Edwards). More info about booklet pick-up below.**

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**PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS**

*Emily Wilson (Class of 2010)*

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The end of summer is fast approaching, and I hope everyone was out this past weekend enjoying the lovely weather. As a Labor Day tradition, my family always does some kind of activity that involves water. It could be a visit to a water park, a float trip, boating on a lake, or a back yard water hose party. This year, we were inspired by a painting of a family sitting in the shade on the banks of a creek. The grandsons were ready with their sun hats, trout nets, and buckets for the fish. They did a great job of catching darters, perch, crayfish and leeches. I had no idea that there were leeches in Missouri! Here is the quick low-down on leeches.

Leeches are segmented worms (*subclass Hirudines in the phylum Annelida*). Leeches are kind of tear-drop shaped with their head at the smaller end. They move much like an inch worm. Leeches are both male and female, and lay their eggs in a ring-like mucous cocoon. Many leeches are predatory, eating small aquatic animals, and some are parasites, consuming blood. I do not know which kind the boys came across, as they were not attached to anyone. Here’s a tip: To remove a leech from your skin, use a fingernail or other flat blunt object to break the seal of the oral sucker (the smaller end) and then repeat with the posterior end (the larger end). As your fingernail is pushed along the skin, the suction seal will be broken and the leech can be flicked away. Leeches enjoy water that is calm, shallow, warm, and filled with vegetation, so we avoided those areas for the rest of the day. Overall, it was a great afternoon enjoying nature with my family!

*Emily Wilson*

*Leech information from: MDC, field-guide, leeches, and removal information from: Wikipedia: Leech*
Emily Wilson (Class of 2010) snapped this picture of a garden spider at Rock Bridge Memorial State Park. Learn more about garden spiders here.

"THE HISTORY OF ROCK BRIDGE" BOOKLETS ARE HERE!
If you ordered a booklet, you can bring your $7 to our picnic at the river and pick it up from Jill. If you did not order a booklet but would like to purchase one, Jill purchased two extra booklets to sell to the first two people that let her know. Please make checks out to Jill Edwards. If you are not able to attend our picnic, you can email Jill to make arrangements for delivery or pick-up. Note that Jill works on the MU campus. Thanks!
Here is a list of people that ordered booklets and have yet to pick them up: Barbara Brinkman, Mary Embree, Lori Gale, Bryce Jones, Gerald Meyr, Clinton Prenger, Beverly Simons and Mary Waters.
**SUMMER NATURE PROGRAM AT ROCK BRIDGE MEMORIAL STATE PARK A SUCCESS!**

During the month of July, the Urban Populations Outreach Program invited children from local youth clubs such as Fun City, Boys and Girls Club, and El Centro Latino to explore and enjoy Rock Bridge Memorial State Park. Our very own Meredith Donaldson (Class of 2004), Mary Waters (2014), Nancy Bedan (2010), and Janet Lindstrom (2013) all helped the kids explore and learn about the trails, cave, streams and habitats in small groups. The goal of the program is to help the children and their adult leaders learn about and appreciate park resources through hands-on activities. Research shows that kids develop a “place attachment” to the outside places they explore, they feel “at home” when they spend time in those places, and they grow up to be cool people that value and protect our natural resources. If you would like to earn volunteer hours by helping with future summer programs at RBMSP, please email Meredith Donaldson.  

**Pictured: Kids from El Centro Latino explore RBMSP with Meredith Donaldson (Class of 2004)**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

There is going to be a **TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE** on August 21st, 2017, and Columbia is right in the perfect path to see it! Mark your calendars now for this incredible two minute thirty-seven-second view that will be the first total solar eclipse visible from the continental United States since 1979. WOW!

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**ADVANCED TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

For updated information on advanced training opportunities, please see the online Chapter calendar at [http://extension.missouri.edu/boone/masternaturalist.aspx](http://extension.missouri.edu/boone/masternaturalist.aspx). To submit an opportunity for advanced training consideration, use the form on the chapter website and email it to MMNATrain@gmail.com.

**Attend the ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI INTERPRETERS 2014 Workshop (September 14-16th, Sedalia MO):**

This year’s AMI Workshop will take place from September 14-16 in Sedalia, Mo. This year’s theme, “Finding Your Interpretive Center in the Heart of Missouri”, is about connecting with why you do what you do, and using that why to help carry your message to all your audiences. The workshop is also where we recognize our colleagues with the annual AMI awards, and support the future of the field by
awarding the George Kastler Interpreter Scholarships. For more details, and to download a registration packet, go to this link:  http://www.mointerp.net/

Sign up to Attend a Workshop:  “Back to Nature with Native Plants: Learning to Manage Native Plants for Pollinators & Us” Workshops (sponsored by the Native Plants Program at Lincoln University Cooperative Extension):
The Native Plants Program offers training workshops that include hands-on demonstrations about topics related to native plants. During every class staff will offer a 20 to 30 minute talk regarding a special topic followed by orientation to conduct activities of the day. Please bring pruners, gloves, shovels, bucket (optional) and dress comfortably. Some tools will be available during classes. Pollinator observation activities will be done during every session. Data will be collected and sent to the 'Great Sunflower Project’.

- All experience levels are welcome!
- All classes meet on Thursday from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Classes will gather in the Dickinson Parking Lot located on 1219 Chestnut Street, Jefferson City, MO.
  (Class location will be at the Allen/Foster Native Plant Outdoor Laboratory.)
- **Upcoming workshop dates include:**
  - Thurs 9/18 (Fall Flowers & Fall Colors)
  - Thurs 11/6 (Discussion of 2014 Accomplishments & Thanksgiving Potluck – bring a dish to share)
  - Check this link for additional workshop dates and topics:  http://www.lincoln.edu/web/programs-and-projects/native-plants
- **Classes are free but advanced registration is encouraged.** Space is limited. RSVP by email to Amy Hempen at HempenA@LincolnU.edu, or call Sue Bartelette at (573) 681-5581 or Nadia Navarrete-Tindall at (573) 681-5392.

Register to attend “Grow Native! Advanced Landscape Design Workshop” on Saturday September 20th at the Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center in Springfield Missouri (Register by September 15th/$40 for non-members/$30 for members):
During this workshop sponsored by the Grow Native! Program of the Missouri Prairie Foundation and Show-Me Yards & Neighborhoods, you will learn how to landscape using native trees, how to sustain pollinators, and beyond-the-basics rain garden design, construction and maintenance. Register online at http://grownative.org/events/grow-native-workshop-advanced-native-plant-landscape-design/

SAVE THE DATE!  Our next statewide Advanced Training Conference will be May 1-3, 2015, in Springfield, and will be hosted by the Springfield Plateau Chapter.  Hope you can make it!
For updated information on volunteer opportunities, please see the online calendar on the chapter website at: [http://extension.missouri.edu/masternaturalist/columbia/](http://extension.missouri.edu/masternaturalist/columbia/). Please contact the person indicated for more detailed information on any of the projects.

To submit a project for consideration for service hours, fill out a Volunteer Opportunity Approval Form, available at [http://extension.missouri.edu/boone/mnvolopps.aspx](http://extension.missouri.edu/boone/mnvolopps.aspx) and email it to [MMNVolOpps@gmail.com](mailto:MMNVolOpps@gmail.com) for consideration.

**HELP MISSOURI RIVER RELIEF WITH THE 2014 MISSOURI RIVER CLEAN-UP IN BOONVILLE MISSOURI (SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 20TH FROM 8:30AM TO NOON), THEN ENJOY THE BOONVILLE RIVER FESTIVAL:**

Spend the morning cleaning up our nation’s longest river, then be sure to check out the Boonville River Festival in the afternoon! You can earn volunteer hours cleaning up the river, check-in begins at 8:30am sharp at the Franklin Island Conservation Area (sign up to help at link below).

During the river clean-up, boats will ferry volunteers to locations along the Missouri River for a couple of hours to gather trash. Volunteers will receive a free boat ride, t-shirt, trash bags, gloves, lunch, and a reusable water bottle. After the river clean-up, be sure to check out the Boonville River Festival (11am to 6pm at the Isle of Capri Riverside Parking Lot) to enjoy live music, yummy food, and educational exhibits and activities. Live music will be provided by Wildheart, the Boone County Tick Pickers, Violet & the Undercurrents, and Cindy Woolf & Mark Bilyeu will be there with their new band. We (the Boone’s Lick Chapter of the Missouri Master Naturalists) will have a booth at this event, so be sure to stop by and say hello!


**CONTACT:** Email Melanie Cheney at [melanie@riverrelief.org](mailto:melanie@riverrelief.org)

Opportunity Code for Timesheets: MRR

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**HELP IMPROVE PRAIRIE PLANTING AREAS AROUND COLUMBIA SCHOOLS**

Fall is a lovely time to get outside and help care for the native prairie plantings in local school outdoor classrooms, with or without students around! Lea Langdon is still looking for a few more volunteers. Please let Lea know if you are interested, and she will add you to her email list for upcoming volunteer opportunities. You can email Lea, [langtrea@gmail.com](mailto:langtrea@gmail.com), or call or text her at 573-864-7647.

**CONTACT:** Lea Langdon, 573-864-7647, [langtrea@gmail.com](mailto:langtrea@gmail.com)

Opportunity Code for Timesheets: COCP

*Picture Above: Aromatic Aster at Rock Bridge Elementary School Outdoor Classroom*

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**ASSIST WITH NATIVE PRAIRIE SEED COLLECTION**

There are many opportunities to assist with native seed collection throughout this summer and fall. It’s an excellent way to learn new species of plants while assisting with prairie restoration in Missouri. See below for a tentative schedule -- locations and times are TBD. Volunteers will travel to different locations within about 45 minutes of Columbia to gather seed for prairie restoration at Prairie Fork Conservation Area. MDC will provide limited transportation; carpooling is encouraged. Chris Newbold will send an email a week or so before each trip. To be included on the list, contact him at [chris.newbold@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:chris.newbold@mdc.mo.gov) You can find excellent pictures and descriptions of wildflowers at this link: [http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/](http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/)

- Sept. 27 - Saturday – Diggs Area
BE A TRAIL GUIDE FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS AT THE ARROW ROCK CRAFT FESTIVAL
(THURSDAY OCT 2ND, 7:30am to 4pm)
The Friends of Arrow Rock are looking for volunteers to lead several short hikes for elementary students participating in the Arrow Rock Craft festival on October 2nd in Arrow Rock, Missouri. An orientation of the trail and its natural and cultural history will be provided. During the hike, volunteers will talk about history, plants, and the Missouri River; several interpretive signs along the trail will help volunteers teach the hikers about the history, plants, and river. Hike on Arrow Rock landing trail down to Big Muddy NFWR. Wear sturdy comfortable shoes and dress for the weather. More information about the event here.
CONTACT: Kathy Borgman, 660-837-3231, kborgman@iland.net
Opportunity Code for Timesheets: OTHER

NOTEWORTHY

See an interesting video or article online? Please share your link via email to mmndragonflyer@gmail.com, and it could end up in the next issue of the Dragonfly!

Birds Prey on Pedestrians at New Mexico State University

How the Napa Earthquake Last Month Deformed the Earth

Think You Know Which US States are the Flattest?

Olympic Athlete Uses Bow & Arrow to Kill a Deer at a Lexus Dealership

Did NASA Capture a Picture of an Alien and It’s Shadow on the Moon?

Why Do Sinkholes Open Up?

NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETING
Thursday October 9th
6:30PM
MU Extension Building
TOPIC TO BE ANNOUNCED!
First Song

That long-ago morning at Ruth’s farm
when I hid in the wisteria
and watched hummingbirds. I thought
the ruby or gold that gleamed on their throats
was the honeyed blood of flowers.
They would stick their piercing beaks
into a crown of petals until their heads
disappeared. The blossoms blurred into wings,
and the breathing I heard
was the thin, moving stems of wisteria.
That night, my face pressed against the window,
I looked out into the dark
where the moon drowned in the willows
by the pond. My heart, bloodstone,
turned. That long night, the farm,
those jeweled birds, all these gone years.
The horses standing quiet and huge
in the moon-crossing blackness.

"First Song" by Joseph Stroud, from Of This World
Missouri Master Naturalists
Boone’s Lick Chapter
2014 Officers

Please Join Us on Facebook: Missouri Master Naturalist, Boone’s Lick Chapter

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To promote awareness and citizen stewardship of natural resources through science-based education and community service.