OUR NEXT CHAPTER MEETING
Thursday May 11th @ 6:30PM
MU Extension Building

Life of a WRP: 60 Days of Duck Hunting 305 Days of Birding

Suzanne Wright (Class of 2005) and her husband Brad will talk about Mussel Fork Legacy Marsh (MFLM or “The Fork”). The Fork’s 195 acers in Chariton County were enrolled in the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) in 2005. The property consists of 117.2 acers of herbaceous seasonal moist soil, 33 acers of upland, 30.9 acers of wooded wetland, and 13.9 acers of wooded upland. Brad and Suzanne will share the challenges and opportunities they face with funding, planning resources, and management methods, and tell us about some of the tools they use to enhance the property for wetlands and diversity of species. Kevin Dacie from the Department of Natural Resources will be on hand to answer questions about the WRP. All meeting attendees are eligible for the FREE RAFFLE – this month’s item is a SOCK FEEDER FULL OF THISTLE SEEDS. You’ve got a chance to make your finches happy!

Photo: Great Crested Flycatcher

This program is approved for 1 hour of Advanced Training. Members count 1 hour of Advanced Training in addition to 1 hour of service plus travel time. Advanced Training does not require a timesheet code, and does not include travel time. The timesheet code for service/travel time is ADM. The MU Extension Office is located at 1012 North Highway UU (I-70 Exit 121).

Sweets: Sally Swanson  Savories: Bonnie Hansen  Drinks: Bring Your Own Drinks!
Hello Boone’s Lick Chapter Members!

This month, I’m going to tell you about JOHN JAMES AUDUBON. He was way into birds!

**John James Audubon** was born in 1785 in what is now Haiti. As a kid he was an enthusiastic learner, studying birds, nature, music, and drawing. When he was 18, due to slave unrest in Haiti (slaves were about to launch a successful revolt against their French colony oppressors), he came to America, living near Philadelphia in his family’s estate, called *Mill Grove*. It was there that he conducted the first-known bird-banding experiment in America— he tied strings around the legs of *Eastern Phoebes* to see if they returned to the same nesting sites every year. (Turns out, they do!) In 1812, he experienced and wrote about the *New Madrid Earthquake*. He spent some time as a businessman, running a dry-goods store, but then hard times hit and in 1819 he spent some time in the hoosegow for bankruptcy! After that setback, Audubon set out on a new path—a journey down the Mississippi River with the goal of creating illustrations and descriptions of the birds he encountered (and then shot) along the way. (Audubon discovered 25 new species of birds over his lifetime!) Then in 1826 he sailed to England, finding a printer for his illustrated *Birds of America* (published from 1827-1839). (Click [here](#) to see an amazing online version of the guide!) The guide was an enormous success, making him famous and financially back-in-the-black. He later worked with William MacGillivray, an ornithologist from Scotland, on the *Ornithological Biographies*, a guide that included life histories of each species. Audubon returned to America and made a few more trips, looking for birds and creating his final work, a guide to the mammals of North America. He passed away in 1851. You can [find his grave](#) at the Trinity Cemetery in New York City.
Interesting tidbit: Audubon did not found the Audubon Society – it was formed in 1905 and named in his honor. The Audubon website sums up Audubon’s life nicely: “Audubon’s story is one of triumph over adversity; his accomplishment is destined for the ages. He encapsulates the spirit of young America, when the wilderness was limitless and beguiling. He was a person of legendary strength and endurance, as well as a keen observer of birds and nature. Like his peers, he was an avid hunter, and he also had a deep appreciation and concern for conservation; in his later writings he sounded the alarm about destruction of birds and habitats. It is fitting that today we carry his name and legacy into the future.”

Like on Facebook: Columbia Audubon Society of Missouri
Like on Facebook: The Audubon Society of Missouri
Like on Facebook: National Audubon Society

P.S. There are still spots left for the Ha Ha Tonka State Park Advanced Training Hike with MDC’s Mike Leahy on Saturday May 27th – you can find more information in the Advanced Training section of this newsletter. It’s one of the planned hikes that is closest to us (92 miles away), and it’s a great way to earn a big chunk of advanced training hours while spending time outside with nice people! Please RSVP to Mike, then email me to be added to the car-pool list. We will leave Columbia around 7:30am from the AC Exit car-pool lot at Hwy 63 and the AC Exit, drive to Ha Ha Tonka, hike from 9:30am to afternoon (4.75 miles), at some point we will go out to eat, and then we plan to be back by early evening.

Next month, I’ll tell you about RACHEL CARSON. She wrote Silent Spring (1962). Speaking of spring: Missouri does Spring right. Go outside and see!

Jill
Jill Edwards
Boone’s Lick Chapter President (2017)
Missouri Master Naturalist Class of 2013
Please email me with questions, feedback, and ideas for future chapter meeting presentations!
Please join our group on Facebook: Missouri Master Naturalist, Boone’s Lick Chapter

Sources: My own notes from the presentation and the Audubon website. Thanks go to Gwynn Douglas from the Chert Glades Chapter – I learned much about Audubon from her “Great Naturalists” program last September at the “Where the Ozarks Meet the Prairies” advanced training event.
Art Credit: Painting of John James Audubon by John Syme, on display at the White House Historical Association, and Illustration of Eastern Phoebes by John James Audubon.
IT’S T-SHIRT ORDERING TIME!

Every Missouri Master Naturalist enjoys having a fresh t-shirt to wear in the spring! This year’s shirt has a cool quote on the back suggested by Kim Kraus (Class of 2015) – thanks Kim! Prices start at $10 with LOTS of color choices, including white, sport grey, black, charcoal, daisy, iris, light blue, Irish green, light pink, pistachio, sapphire, mint, navy, forest, cardinal red, chocolate, royal blue, purple, orange and red. Payment is not required until you pick up your shirt in late May/early June (make checks to Boone County Extension). We will send an email when shirts are ready with further instructions!

To order, you can either...
1) fill out an order form at our next chapter meeting and give it to Sally Swanson, or 2) email Sally at embroiderit@socket.net with your order information, or 3) call Sally at 573-234-2951 with your order. EASY!

Wedge Watkins is retiring!

After 32 years of federal service and 12 years of working at Big Muddy, Wedge is retiring.

Please join Wedge and the Big Muddy staff for an open house at the Big Muddy headquarters building.

May 10, 2017
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Please send cards and gift contributions to Molly Comstock,
Big Muddy NWR
18500 Brady Lane
Boonville, MO 65233

If you have photos or memories to share, send them to Anna Weyers at anna_weyers@fws.gov.
CELEBRATE GREAT MISSOURI BIRDING TRAIL AT MAY SPECIAL EVENTS

News from the region: Statewide by Joe Jerek, Apr 17, 2017

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and the Missouri Bird Conservation Foundation invite birders and others interested in birds to special events in May celebrating the completion of the Great Missouri Birding Trail.

The Great Missouri Birding Trail was initiated by Mike Doyen, president of the Missouri Bird Conservation Foundation. It is now a partnership between MDC and the Foundation with support from other state and federal agencies and birding organizations.

The special events will be:

- **May 11 in Springfield** at the MDC Springfield Conservation Nature Center, 4601 S. Nature Center Way;
- **May 12 in Rolla** at the Audubon Trails Nature Center, 550 Meriweather Court;
- **May 17 in the Kansas City area** at the MDC Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center, 1401 NW Park Road in Blue Springs;
- **May 18 in the St. Louis area** at the MDC Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center, 11715 Cragwold Road in Kirkwood;
- **May 19 in Columbia** at the MDC Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area, 6700 W Route K;
- **May 24 in Kirksville** at the MDC Northeast Regional Office, 3500 S. Baltimore; and
- **May 26 in Cape Girardeau** at the MDC Cape Girardeau Conservation Nature Center, 2289 County Park Drive.

All events will be from 9 a.m. to noon. The events will include a brief opening ceremony with Birding Trail signage unveiled followed by short birding walks on area trails. The first 25 people at each event will receive a Great Missouri Birding Trail tote bag or water bottle. Attendees will also get Trail bumper stickers and lens cloths for cameras and binoculars.

To request that this opportunity be approved for advanced training, please complete the Advanced Training Approval Form on the chapter website and email it to MMNATrain@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

SERVICE PIN FOR 2017: THE BUMBLEBEE
For updated information on volunteer opportunities, please see the online calendar on the chapter website. 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, and email it to MMNVolOpps@gmail.com for consideration.

HELP WITH AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FISHING TRIP @ Jefferson Farm & Gardens
FRIDAY MAY 12TH FROM 10:15AM TO NOON

Jefferson Farm and Gardens will be hosting a field trip for about forty 5th grade students on May 12th. The students are interested in “catch and release” fishing in the stocked lake at the Farm. Naturalists will be needed to help set up fishing equipment and to help the students with basic fishing skills (baiting hooks, casting and releasing fish). They need 10 volunteers to help out with 4 students each. Jefferson Farm & Garden is located at 4800 E. New Haven Rd., Columbia, 65201
Please contact Amy Dooley at dooleyam@missouri.edu or 573-239-6134 to RSVP.
Opportunity Code for Timesheets: MUJF

Help with the Missouri River Bird Observatory Summer Kids Camp
Arrow Rock, Missouri (45 min from Columbia)
Tuesdays and Wednesdays from May 30th to July 26th
**Who:** The Missouri River Bird Observatory works to contribute to the conservation of Missouri’s migratory and resident birds through scientific research, community outreach, and education. Each year they conduct approximately 70 educational events and this year they are launching a new youth program.

**What:** Master Naturalist volunteers are invited to assist the Missouri River Bird Observatory with a summer day camp for kids called the *Young Naturalists Club*. They are seeking your expertise to teach programs and lead activities.

**When:** Tuesday and Wednesday each week from May 30th – July 26th.

**Where:** The Observatory is located in Arrow Rock, Missouri, about 45 minutes from Columbia.

**Contact:** If you are interested in this opportunity provide you name, Master Naturalist Chapter, phone number, email, and availability to Dana Ripper, MBRO Director at dana.ripper@mbro.org or Paige Witek, MBRO Education Coordinator at paige.witek@mrbo.org ASAP. Please copy Syd Hime on your correspondence at syd.hime@mdc.mo.gov.

This is a great opportunity to share your naturalist knowledge with young, enthusiastic, soon-to-be naturalists!

**Opportunity Code for Timesheets:** TBA (will confirm in June Dragonflyer)

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**Help with Indiana and Northern Long-eared Bat Emergence Counts @ Various Missouri Conservation Areas in July**

**What:** Master Naturalist volunteers are invited to assist Missouri's Department of Conservation in an inventory and monitoring survey for the **federally endangered Indiana bat** and the **federally threatened northern long-eared bat**. These bats are facing many threats such as white nose syndrome, a disease caused by a Eurasian fungus. As their numbers dwindle, the Department seeks to protect those that shelter on Department land.

**When:** Emergence counts will be needed during the summer. Searches will be conducted by the Department to locate trees used by the bats as roosts and to monitor the development of the pups during early June to determine if the young of the year have fledged. Counts will commence when both adults and juveniles can be detected leaving the roost in the 2nd or 3rd weeks of July.

**Where:** Emergence counts will take place at one or more of the following Conservation Areas: Atlanta, Macon County (1 hour 30 minutes from Columbia); Locust Creek, Sullivan County; and others to be announced.
County (1 hour 45 minutes from Columbia), Poosey, Livingston County (2 hours 15 minutes from Columbia); and Union Ridge, Sullivan County (2 hours from Columbia).

How: Pairs of volunteers and Department staff will stake out a previously identified roost tree during the evening emergence and count bats as they leave the roost. Volunteers should arrive at the arranged meeting point at 7 p.m. Teams of two will then be assigned to a known roost tree. Teams should locate and get comfortable at their roost tree at least 40 minutes before dusk. Emergence counts should begin 30 minutes before dusk and continue for 1 hour after sunset or until it is too dark to see bats (whichever occurs first).

Contact: If you are interested in this opportunity, provide your name, Master Naturalist Chapter, phone number, email, and availability to Jeanette Bailey, MDC Natural History Biologist, at jeanette.bailey@mdc.mo.gov by June 1st. Please copy Syd Hime on your correspondence at syd.hime@mdc.mo.gov.

This is an excellent opportunity to support bat monitoring and protection efforts in Missouri. You help is greatly appreciated!

Opportunity Code for Timesheets: TBA (will confirm in June Dragonflyer)

**UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

- **Wednesday May 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st from 7:30am to 4pm:** Birding Trip with Bill Clark (Columbia Audubon Society, in State Park or Conservation Area, fledgling birders welcome – the best way to learn birds is by birding with an expert! Meet at SW Corner of Parkade Center parking lot, call Bill at 573-474-4510 to RSVP. (Timesheet Code CAS)
- **Wednesday May 10th from 8:30am to noon:** Midway Heights Elementary Work Party, work with 4th and 5th graders to plant natives in their prairie and pollinator garden areas, see chapter calendar for details, if you have questions email Lea Langdon or call 573-864-7647. (Timesheet Code SOC)
- **Thursday May 11th from 8:30am to noon:** Work Party at Two Mile Prairie, work with 4th and 5th graders to plant natives in their prairie and pollinator garden areas, see chapter calendar for details, if you have questions email Lea Langdon or call 573-864-7647. (Timesheet Code SOC)
- **Friday May 12th from time TBA (contact Lea for time):** Work Party at Early Childhood Center, work with students to plant natives in their Nature Explore Area, see chapter calendar for details, if you have questions email Lea Langdon or call 573-864-7647. (Timesheet Code SOC)
- **Saturday May 13th from 8am to 11am:** Columbia Crawdads Stream Team Cleanup, email volunteer@gocolumbiamo.com or call 573-874-7499 for location. (Timesheet Code COC)
- **Monday May 15th from 9am to 11am:** Work Party at Bonnie View Nature Sanctuary, help 2nd Graders with planting/weeding, see chapter calendar for details, if you have questions email Lea Langdon or call 573-864-7647. (Timesheet Code WO)
- **Tuesday May 16th from 2pm to 4pm:** Work Party at Rock Bridge Elementary, see chapter calendar for details, if you have questions email Lea Langdon or call 573-864-7647. (Timesheet Code SOC)
- **Thursday May 18th from 1:30pm to 3:30pm:** Work Party at Forum Nature Area, see chapter calendar for details, you are invited to join local native plant enthusiasts for lunch.
at Uprise Café from 11:30-12:30, if you have questions email Lea Langdon or call 573-864-7647. (Timesheet Code WO)

- **Monday May 22nd from 9am to 11am:** Work Party at Rock Bridge High School Rain Garden, see chapter calendar for details, if you have questions email Lea Langdon or call 573-864-7647. (Timesheet Code SOC)

### ADVANCED TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

For updated information on advanced training opportunities, please see the [online Chapter calendar](#). To submit an opportunity for advanced training consideration, use the form on the chapter website and email it to [MMNATrain@gmail.com](mailto:MMNATrain@gmail.com).

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**Primitive Skills Day**  
**June 10th from 10-4**  
**MDC Regional Office**

Join the Missouri Dept. of Conservation for an exciting and educational experience in primitive skills. From hunting to camping, you can incorporate primitive techniques to make your next adventure in the outdoors more successful. Activities will include atlatl, archery, fire making, cordage, muzzle-loading, wildlife id, and campfire cooking. Visit various hands-on skills stations, led by experienced volunteers, as you move throughout the primitive camp area. Discover Nature programs are designed to help Missourians explore nature & master outdoor skills together. This program is open to all ages. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Register by contacting: [brian.flowers@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:brian.flowers@mdc.mo.gov) or by Calling (573) 815-7901 ext. 2867. Please RSVP by June 1st! The MDC Regional Office is located at 3500 East Gans Road, Columbia, 65201, 

*Advanced training does not require a timesheet code – only volunteer hours require you to enter a timesheet code.*

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**RE-POST: Missouri Natural Areas: 40th Anniversary Tour**  
**For Missouri Master Naturalists ONLY**  
**Led by Mike Leahy, MDC**
Designed as advanced training exclusively for Missouri Master Naturalists, this series of Saturday hikes features some of the state’s most unique natural areas. Join Mike Leahy, Natural Areas Coordinator for the Missouri Department of Conservation, and discover Missouri’s natural features. **Reservations are required for each hike. Please RSVP at least seven days prior to the hike to Mike Leahy at mike.leahy@mdc.mo.gov or 573-522-4115, ext 3192.** There is a maximum of 30 participants per hike. Registered participants will be contacted prior to each hike with final details and logistics. Hikes will be held rain or shine. Please dress accordingly. In the event of severe weather, hikes will be cancelled and participants will be notified. Wear appropriate shoes, and please bring water, food, sunscreen, insect repellant, and anything else you may need. An optional “bring your own picnic lunch” will follow the morning hikes.

**TOUR SCHEDULE:**

**May 27 – Ha Ha Tonka Oak Woodland Natural Area,** Camden County, 92 miles from Columbia. Chapter members will be car-pooling to this hike – email Jill after you RSVP to Mike and she will add you to car-pool list and send you more info! Hike a 4.75 mile trail through some of the best woodlands and glades in the Ozarks. The glade openings should be very showy with wildflowers and abuzz with insect life. Meet: 9:30 a.m. at the Turkey Pen Hollow Trail trailhead parking lot on Hwy D in Ha Ha Tonka State Park. Information and directions: [http://short.mdc.mo.gov/Z3a](http://short.mdc.mo.gov/Z3a)

**June 10 – Osage and Little Osage Prairie Natural Areas,** Vernon County, 183 miles from Columbia. Wander across these tallgrass prairies named for the Native Americans who once lived here. The prairies will be alive with wildflowers, birds, and pollinating insects. Meet: 10 a.m. at the Osage Prairie Natural Area parking lot. Information and directions: [http://short.mdc.mo.gov/Z3R](http://short.mdc.mo.gov/Z3R)

*Advanced training does not require a timesheet code – only volunteer hours require you to enter a timesheet code.*
RE-POST: SEE SPRING UNFOLD @ ROCK BRIDGE MEMORIAL STATE PARK

Attend the 36th Annual Weekly Spring Wildflower Walks led by Randal Clark.
Every Thursday until May 18th from 5:30-7PM.
Meet at Devil’s Icebox Parking Lot.
Reservations are NOT required.

Sponsored by Missouri State Parks  Photo:  Jack-in-the-Pulpit

Advanced training does not require a timesheet code – only volunteer hours require you to enter a timesheet code.

RE-POST: Hike to Hidden Treasures
Rock Bridge Memorial State Park
First Saturday of Each Month
1:30pm to 3:30pm
Free!
Call 573-449-7400 to RSVP

Get to know Rock Bridge Memorial State Park better by participating in hikes that will guide you to hidden treasures of the park, share information about history and nature and provide a service project opportunity (optional) of about 20 min. Included will be special natural features and photos and information from the park's historical research about what life was like back then and about how the park was founded. A small amount of the route will involve walking off-trail. Hikes are free but reservations are required because space is limited. When you call (573-449-7400), you will be given driving directions. Reservations can be made starting one month in advance. Recommended for ages 8 years and up. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Prefer no dogs.

First Saturday of each month. Come to one or all. Time: 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

- June: Grassland. Gilbert, Barns, Farm, Prairie Flowers, Largest Tree
- July: Picnic Area, Hickam Cabin, Little Bonne Femme Creek Wading
- August: High Ridge Wind Mill, Farm, Clear Creek Wading, Ridge View
- September: Karst Barn, Shed, Farm, Neat Sinkholes, Prairie
- October: Gans Creek, Saunders Cabin Ruins, Fall Color, Bluff-top View
- November: Devil’s Icebox, Rockbridge Mills, Glacial Relic “Red Rocks”
- December: Special Use Area, Coyote Bluff, Bluff-top views
See an interesting video or article online? Please share your link via email to mmndragonflyer@gmail.com

Having a Bad Day? Not after Watching Animals at the Oregon Zoo Enjoying the Snow

Video: Man Saves Eagle Stuck in the Mud

Photos and Videos from the Floods in April (Watch the Levee Break in Pocahontas, Arkansas one)

Wake up to Gentle Birdsong with this new Smartphone App

Grrrr... Someone has Vandalized The Big Tree Again

One Night, One Building, Nearly 400 Birds Dead in Texas

Video: Drone Footage of Severe April Flooding in Missouri

Get Covered for Tick Season with These Eight Expert Tips

100 Years of Eclipse-Chasing Revealed in Quirky Pictures

Shrimp called Pink Floyd Produces Killer Sound

Video: Despite Excessive Flooding in Southeast Missouri, Wildlife Biologists Banded Wood Ducklings

Read: Guy’s Hilarious Response to a Cease-and-Desist Notice from the Pennsylvania Dept of Environmental Quality

Video: Huge Iceberg Towers over Canadian Town

There are Diseases Hidden in Ice, and they are Waking Up

Video: Watch a Dog Watch a Fox that Stole Its Toy

California’s Wildflower “Super Bloom” Transforms Landscapes into Paintings

Video: Spying on Wildlife with Animal Robots

Hunting for Treasure at Low Tide on London’s River Thames

UDOT Plans $5 Million Overpass for Wildlife at Parleys Summit in Utah
Video: After Bee Attack, Kentucky Farmer Gives Most Country Interview Ever

How the Sounds of Nature Help Us to Relax

Video: Pet Goat in Arkansas Saves Her Entire Family from Fire

Escaped Pet Birds are Teaching Wild Birds to Speak English

Video: As the Seas around Them Rise, Louisiana Fishermen Deny Climate Change

Keep Having a Good Day: Watch this Baby Otter

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**NEXT CHAPTER MEETING**

**Annual Chapter Potluck Picnic & Bee Hive Tour with John Gage**

Thursday, June 8th @ 6:30 PM

@ Sally and Bobb Swanson’s House

9250 East Highway WW

*Please bring a dish of your choice to the potluck, and don’t forget to bring a plate/cup/utensils, and a lawn chair if you have one!*

**DRIVING DIRECTIONS:** 9250 E. HWY WW. Drive east on Broadway, which becomes WW. Cross HWY 63 and go about 7 miles. As you cross Rangeline, pay close attention as you will need to turn into the second driveway on the right. If you get lost, please call 573-442-1007. Hope to see you there!

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**SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT**
**Missouri Master Naturalists**  
**Boone’s Lick Chapter**  
**2017 Officers**

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

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<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Jill Edwards (Class of 2013)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
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*In my deepest troubles, I frequently would wrench myself from the persons around me and retire to some secluded part of our noble forests.*

*John James Audubon*
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<tr>
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To promote awareness and citizen stewardship of natural resources through science-based education and community service.