The American Badger is a species of concern in Missouri. Trapping results have consistently been low, with the fifty-year average being less than one hundred individuals a year. Observations are few, providing us with little data and resulting in an official rank of Unrankable (SU). Come learn more about this fascinating, often underappreciated furbearer.

Drinks: Jeanie Scott-Pillen Non-dessert: Suzanne Wright Dessert: Diana Clarke

PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

Emily Wilson

I hope someone has a great photo of the supermoon for the calendar contest. I was unable to take one due to clouds where I was; however, while thinking about taking that picture, I pulled out my camera guide for settings. I have been playing with all the settings to take a picture of crawfish in a small pool fed by a creek. I don’t have a calendar picture yet, but I do have a better understanding of crawfish behavior after watching them for a couple of hours. While sitting there, I also had the chance to see snakes, turtles and small fish. Do I have a photo of any of them? No. But I did enjoy the experience in nature, which is why most of us joined Master Naturalists in the first place. I would like to encourage everyone to go out and take some pictures of nature regardless of the type of camera you have. It will be a great learning experience. Hope to have that crawfish photo by the August meeting. Editor’s note: Learn more about the calendar contest on page 4.
Good Food, Good Weather and Good Friends at Chapter Potluck

Several members of the Boone’s Lick Chapter scattered across Sally and Bobb Swanson’s deck and lawn for the annual chapter potluck on June 13. This year’s weather was quite a change from the drought conditions and heat of last year. Groups of people wandered down to the Swanson’s lake while others relaxed and chatted, watched the birds…and ate. What great food! Thanks to Sally and Bobb for hosting once again, and thanks to Matt Pemberton of Pemberton BBQ and Catering for the terrific smoked turkey, brisket and pulled pork. And, of course, thanks to the members for carrying in loads of sides, salads and desserts.

NOTEWORTHY

Black Holes

Black Hole’s Guts

Hula-hooping Wild Dolphin?

Fox Cub

Underwater Photos
Volcano Erupts

Hydropower
http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/blog/2013/jun/20/hydropower-hearts-minds-local-communities

'Mothership' Supercell Explained
http://bcove.me/6l2r3luy

Footage of 'Mothership' Supercell forming in Adrian, TX
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gDMNDMmWQFI

Jumping Spider

Eagles Crash Land!

Thieving Seagulls

Woodpecker Defends Its Stash Against Squirrel

Just For Fun

BL member Jeanie Scott-Pillen took this photo at Eagle Bluffs CA during flooding in June.  Good advice.
Channel Your Inner Noppadol Paothong! Enter the Photo Contest!

Boone's Lick MMN will be holding a chapter photo contest to select photographs for a pocket calendar containing months October 2013 through December 2014. The calendar will be included in the registration packets given to the Missouri Master Naturalists attending the State Advanced Training Event Saturday, October 5, 2013, hosted by the Boone's Lick Chapter.

Photos must be taken by any 2013 Boone's Lick Chapter trainee working toward certification or any actively volunteering BL chapter member who logged hours in 2012 and/or is working toward certification/recertification in 2013. Each member may submit three (3) photos which have been taken within the state of Missouri during the time the photographer was an actively volunteering Boone's Lick Chapter member. Winning photos from previous MMN State Conferences will be accepted. An independent panel will select the photos for each of the fifteen (15) months in the AT calendar.

Photos must be submitted by 6:30 pm September 12, 2013, at the MU Extension office. Submissions must be printed on 8" x 10" photo quality paper with name, phone, email address and location where the photo was taken listed on the back. Horizontal photos are better suited because of calendar formatting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

America’s Grasslands Conference

August 12-14, Hilton Garden Inn, Manhattan, KS. The conference is co-hosted by the National Wildlife Federation and Kansas State University and will bring together researchers, natural resources professionals, farmers and ranchers, policy experts and conservationists to discuss the conservation of North America's grasslands. The conference will also feature optional field trips to local grasslands, talks on rancher perspectives on grassland conservation, and a BBQ at the Konza Prairie. For more info, please log onto https://www.nwf.org/What-We-Do/Protect-Habitat/Healthy-Forests-and-Farms/Americas-Grasslands-Conference.aspx.

ADVANCED TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

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

Big Muddy Speaker Series

For directions to the meeting place, check the website: http://www.riverrelief.org/updates/entry/big-muddy-speaker-series-rocheport/.


Butterfly Walk

July 20, 10 a.m., Prairie Garden Trust, 8945 County Road 431, New Bloomfield, MO. Led by Donna Brunet. For more information, log onto prairiegardentrust.org or call (573) 295-6349.
The Missouri Master Naturalist state website periodically posts advanced training and volunteer opportunities offered throughout the state and open to all MMNs. To view these postings, go to the state website at http://extension.missouri.edu/masternaturalist and click on the link “For Volunteers.” State Advanced Training is also posted on our chapter calendar.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

For updated information on volunteer opportunities, please see the online calendar on the chapter website at: 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 Service Project Form (available at http://extension.missouri.edu/masternaturalist/columbia/Projectapproval.htm) and email it to MMNVolOpps@gmail.com for consideration. You will be notified via email if there are any questions about the project or notified of its approval. Once approval is granted for any person, it is approved for everyone, so it is only necessary to submit one form per project.

Columbia Crawdads Stream Team Cleanup (code COC)

Saturday, July 13, 8am – 11am Location TBD
Lend a hand to make Columbia cleaner by picking up litter at these events held the 2nd Saturday morning of each month. Beforehand, staff will identify the area to be cleaned, the place to meet and the start time. A fellow volunteer will lead you and will bring the supplies you'll need! If interested, contact Lisa Rohmiller, 874-7499, or email her at volunteer@gocolumbiamo.com to get on the contact list.

Prairie Seed Collection (Code MDC)

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, please contact him at chris.newbold@mdc.mo.gov.

July 25 – Thursday evening – Prairie Fork
August 8 – Thursday evening – Prairie Fork
August 24 – Saturday – Tucker Prairie
Sept. 28 - Saturday – Diggs Area
October 12 – Saturday – Rocky Fork CA
October 13 – Sunday – Prairie Fork or Auxvasse Glade

Fence lizard spotted digging for his supper at Auxvasse Glade during this year’s first seed collection, which was actually a hike and plant ID session because of the late Spring.

Photo credit: Jeanie Scott-Pillen
Outdoor Classroom

**Tuesday, July 23, 5-7 PM, Russell School, 1800 W. Rollins.** Behind the school. You can use the west parking lot for Kiwanis Park and take the very short trail to the school grounds. Also, if anyone is interested in helping plan for care of the Russell Outdoor Classroom, you are welcome to join the committee, which meets monthly. Please contact Lea Langdon, langtrea@gmail.com or 864-7647.

Garden Maintenance At EBCA and BLMMN Adopt-a-Spot

**Ongoing. Eagle Bluffs CA Headquarters.** Weed and water if needed in both the Boone’s Lick MMN garden on the west side of the building and/or the Eagle Scout garden on the east side. The rains this year have resulted in a bumper crop of weeds, so if you’d like to help control them, stop by any time. There is a white board inside the information room at the headquarters building. If you come by to volunteer, please write down your name, when you were there and what you did. Be sure to make a note of any wildlife you spot while you’re there!

*Killdeer eggs in Boone’s Lick MMN garden at EBCA.*
*Photo credit: Jeanie Scott-Pillen*

*“Hi! Come see me at the Eagle Scout garden at EBCA!”*  
*Photo credit: Nancy Bowles*

**Adopt-a-Spot, State Farm Parkway Recycling Drop-Off Center.** There is no water source here, but weeding volunteers are always welcome! If you’re interested in helping, please contact Jane Fore at jfore@centurytel.net.
To promote awareness and citizen stewardship of natural resources through science-based education and community service.