NEXT MEETING

Thursday, May 9
6:30 p.m.
MU Extension Bldg

Monitoring Eastern Bluebird Nest Box Trails
In 2010, Jane Fore and Mary Williamson began to monitor nest box trails for the Columbia Audubon Society, a Boone’s Lick MN partner. Jane’s presentation will address monitoring logistics, record keeping, and establishing a nest box trail. Be sure to join us for a fun and informative evening!

Drinks: Becky Bohlmeyer
Dessert: Sally Swanson
Non-Dessert: Laura Hillman

PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

Emily Wilson

In 1886, the multiflora rose was brought to the US from Japan as root stock. From the 1930’s through the ‘60’s, it was recommended as a good way to control erosion and as wildlife habitat. In the ‘60’s, my father and I were featured in a conservation magazine article about the benefits of multiflora rose as quail habitat. It did make a great living fence, but I’m not so sure about the quail habitat. Well, like everything else, too much of a good thing becomes a problem. We have spent the last 50-plus years trying to control multiflora rose. Multiflora rose likes disturbed land; for instance, where a tree has fallen in a natural area. It spreads by seed, which can be viable for 10 to 20 years, or by stems touching the ground and sending out roots. The best control is labor intensive and includes cutting or mowing 3 to 6 times during the growing season, repeating the following years. Species: Rosa multiflora; it is a perennial. Information from mdc.mo.gov.
NOTEWORTHY

Angler Finds Two-Headed Shark
http://newswatch.nationalgeographic.com/2013/03/26/two-headed-shark-found-by-fisherman/

One Whopping Tarantula

The “Eyes” Have It
http://photos.msn.com/slideshow/healthy%20living/animal-eyes/230br0x4#

Report Says Global Warming Not To Blame For Drought

Snakehead Hunt in Central Park

Mountain Lion Roams California Neighborhood

Armed Guards Can’t Keep Rhinos Safe

Ladybug, Ladybug, Fly Away To The Mall

Ants Predict Earthquakes

A Slimy Invasion

Endangered Waterways

Blue Whale’s Fluke (Tail) Looks Like Airplane Wings

Planting Ancient Tree Clones

Gorgeous Shots of Yosemite
BOONE’S LICK MASTER NATURALISTS

Thank You!

Boone County Extension Council sent BLMMN this note of appreciation:

“Thank you to all that donated, worked, or purchased items at the April 20 Extension "Clear Your Clutter" garage sale. The sale was wonderful with many great items donated and fantastic volunteers to help. We did well for our first year but see some things we can improve on for next year. Thanks again for your donation of time and items for the Extension Garage Sale.”

Boone’s Lick Master Naturalists In The Field

In the picture below, from the right, are Betsy Garrett, Lottie Bushmann, and Susan Hazelwood. (Betsy and Lottie are in the 2013 intern class.) The shot was taken at the MMN Boone’s Lick Chapter, advanced-training-approved Marsh Bird event held at Duck Creek Conservation Area, March 22-23, 2013. Nice job, ladies!

Susan Hazelwood is also featured in an article on crane spotting at Eagle Bluffs CA in the April 9th issue of the Columbia Missourian. The article is no longer available online, but you can see photos of the cranes and other birds of Eagle Bluffs here: http://www.columbiamissourian.com/m/43438/photo-gallery-sandhill-cranes-spotted-at-eagle-bluffs-conservation-area/.
Wondering About The 2013 Certification Pin? Take A Look...

Missouri Master Naturalist
2013 Certification Pin

Orangethroat Darter
*Etheostoma spectabile*

Description:
This small darter is mottled yellow–brown on the back with indistinct brown crossbars and several vertical blue stripes on the sides. The males are quite colorful while breeding with red blotches on their sides and bright orange under gills.

Size:
The average size of an adult is 1.2 to 2 inches with a maximum of 2.6 inches.

Habitat
This darter is found in slow moving riffles in streams with gravel and rock bottoms and clear to moderately clear water.

Food:
They feed on midge larvae, other aquatic insects and small crustaceans.

Interesting Facts
- The swim bladder in darters is lacking or much–reduced. This allows them to sink and hold closely to the bottom of the stream without much effort.
- Shortly after hatching, orangethroat darter fry sometimes inhibit the nests of smallmouth bass. It is believed that they benefit from the protection of the male bass guarding the nest.
- Recently scientists have separated the orangethroat darter group in Missouri into three distinct species: brook, Current River and orangethroat darters.

More Information
To identify and learn more about animals, plants and mushrooms near you check out the Missouri Department of Conservation field guide at mdc.mo.gov
MEMBERS’ CORNER

When I read the following poem, I thought of all the birds I have ever tracked to get a better look, only to be left holding my binoculars mid-chest with my mouth hanging open as I watched them fly away. I had seen the bird but not SEEN the bird.

Last weekend, I saw a Palm Warbler, not a new bird for me but one that still makes me catch my breath when I first get a glimpse each spring and realize what I have. The Palm Warbler is an early migrant to Missouri as it lives farther north than most of the warblers. It breeds far north in Canada. I wondered if the three I saw on Sunday wintered on the southern coast of the United States or had just arrived from the northern Caribbean.

Recently, I was able to put my husband, Brad, into the middle of a flock of Ruby Crowned Kinglets and Blue Gray Gnatcatchers. A waterfowler who has been known to announce that bird watching “is tedious” has finally begun to see the light. However, the kinglets did make him dizzy as he tried to keep them in focus as they moved closer and closer in an ever-decreasing circle (doing that Kinglet “Look at me, look at me” thing). A week earlier (and on his own) he spotted a Chipping Sparrow amidst some soon-to-be-departing White Throated Sparrows. It appears he’s made the leap from seeing sparrows as LBJs (little brown jobs) into seeing them as a whole new and interesting group of birds without webbed feet. It’s a breakthrough.

As for me, I'm late to work most mornings as I stand distractedly in my front yard listening for something that might have arrived overnight. I am playing my bird song CD in my car, brushing up in anticipation of the Migratory Bird Count on May 11th. Suzanne Wright

A Sighting
by Connie Wanek

The gray owl had seen us and had fled but not far. We followed noiselessly, driving him from pine to pine: I will not let thee go except thou bless me.

He flew as though it gave him no pleasure, forcing himself from the bough, falling until his wings caught him: they had to stroke hard, like heavy oars.

He must have just eaten something that had, itself, just eaten. Finally he crossed the swamp and vanished as into a new day, hours before us,

and we stood near the chest-high reeds, our feet sinking, and felt we’d been dropped suddenly from midair back into our lives.

Editor’s Note: You can find out more about the migratory bird count under “Volunteer Opportunities.”
Graduation for the 2013 training class will be held May 14, and we will be showing an award-winning documentary film about Lupus, the little river town across from Eagle Bluffs.

"Lupus MO: Village by the River," produced by Rhonda Cleeton and Robert Hemmelgarn of Columbia, features photos of Lupus' past as a railroad town and its present as a town where most of the homes have been elevated above the record flood levels seen nearly 20 years ago. Cleeton called the project "a labor of love" that preserves the story of the town and the artists who have made it their home. Robert Hemmelgarn, (member of the BLC 2013 training class) works in video production for KMIZ-TV and narrates the film. He said he was intrigued by the documentary project.

Here's a schedule of the last few meetings and field trips for any BL members who would like to attend:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 4</td>
<td>Tucker Prairie and Prairie Fork Conservation Areas--Chris Newbold, MDC</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(Field Trip) Missouri Prairie Ecosystems</td>
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<td>May 7</td>
<td>Wildlife Management--Lonnie Hansen, MDC</td>
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<td>Law Enforcement as a Resource Management Tool--Adam Doerhoff, MDC</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>Rock Bridge Memorial State Park: Caves and Karst--Pat McDonald/Native Plants--</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Field Trip) Roxie Campbell/History of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park--David Sapp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>Graduation</td>
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Boone’s Lick Chapter members continued their tradition of providing MMN onesies to new parents by presenting Vic Bogosian, wildlife biologist at Eagle Bluffs CA, a gift for the new little Bogosian due in June. The onesie was given at an early training meeting.
UPCOMING EVENTS

Rock Bridge’s National Kids to Parks Program

Splash Into Life, Saturday, May 18--1:00-3:30 p.m., Rock Bridge Memorial State Park
Participate in fun activities to learn what a watershed is and how it affects animals that live in streams. Enjoy a creek walk and use nets to catch minnows, crawdads and other aquatic animals. Learn to identify them and what their presence tells us about water quality. There will be two guided creek walks - one for children 3 to 6 years old and another for those 7 years old and up. An adult must accompany each child. Wear shoes you can get wet. Reservations are required by calling 573-449-7400. Free.

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/.


Saturday Morning Science
May 4, 10:30-11:30, Monsanto Auditorium, Bond Life Sciences Center, Rollins Rd and College Ave. “A Dry Topic: How Plants Adapt To Drought”, Robert Sharp and Mel Oliver, Professors of Plant Science.

Wildflower Walks at Rock Bridge Memorial State Park
Thursdays, May 2, 9 and 16, 5:30pm – 7:30pm, Rock Bridge Memorial State Park
Meet at Devil’s Icebox parking lot. Reservations are not required.

STATEWIDE ADVANCED TRAINING & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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, May 11, 8am – 11am  Location TBD
Be part of a group of like-minded citizens lending 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 and communicate to those who register the following: the area to be cleaned, the place to meet and the start time. Each cleanup will be different – streets and/or streams will be cleaned. A fellow volunteer will lead you in this pro-environment effort 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.

Migratory Bird Count (Code CAS)

Saturday, May 11. The Columbia Audubon Society coordinates the count, which covers all of Boone County. If you’ve participated in the count before, contact your team leader. If you are new to this, you can contact Laura Hillman at hillmanl@missouri.edu or 573-442-3703, and we'll get you on a team. It's great fun and there are a lot more birds than the Christmas Bird Count, but most important, the chance of snow and ice is very low.

Wonders of Wildlife School (Code MDC)

Friday and Saturday, May 10 & 11, 8am – 5pm, Columbia.
The organizers of this event are always looking for help. If interested, contact Chris Egbert, 573-999-1914 or chris-kay@mchsi.com. Wonders of Wildlife School is a partnership program with Bass Pro, Missouri Department of Conservation, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Forest Service, National Parks Service, Missouri State University, Wonders of Wildlife, US Army Corp of Engineers and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. For more information, check out the website at www.wondersofwildlife.org, or call 417-225-1118.

Outdoor Classroom (Code COPC)

Saturday May 11, 9-noon, Russell School, 1800 W. Rollins.  A family/community work day in the outdoor classroom. In honor of Mother's Day that weekend, we are encouraging folks to bring a plant to share with another mother, if you have an abundance of something you think others would appreciate. 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.
2013 Officers

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Advanced Training Co-Chair
Becky Bohlmeier
MMNTrain@gmail.com

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NEXT MEETING
Thursday, June 13
6:30 PM
CHAPTER POTLUCK PICNIC!!!

Hosted by Sally and Bobb Swanson, 9250 E. Hwy WW.
Watch for more details in the June Dragonflyer.

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