



FEBRUARY MEETING

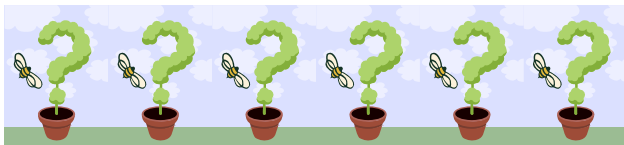
**Thursday, February 14, 2008**

6:30-8:30

Field Trip

Dr. Walter Wehtje, Museum Curator, will give a presentation on the MU Bird and Mammal Collection housed at the Anheuser-Busch Natural Resource Center on the MU campus.

The Anheuser-Busch Natural Resource Center is located between the Ag building and the new Life Sciences building. We will meet in Room 121, located on the main floor just inside the front entrance. A metered parking lot is just a short walk south on Virginia Avenue, which is the first street west of College Avenue on Rollins. Parking is free after 5 p.m.



PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

*Suzanne Wright*

Winter Walk

Yesterday I had the chance to take a walk at Eagle Bluffs. The weather was so mild I couldn't help but think of spring. The ducks are now sporting their new spring plumage and are busy courting. I spotted an American Goldfinch showing off his black cap and bright feathers and the buds on the trees are just waiting for a chance to burst into green leaves. As I scanned the edges for antler sheds I thought of chasing butterflies, banding birds

and collecting seeds when warmer weather returns.

And today all thoughts of spring are frozen in place as Missouri's weather lives up to its reputation of changeability. But yesterday's respite gave me time to ponder more than just spring. It made me grateful for the Missouri Master Naturalist program and the talented and generous people connected with it.

Looking at scat along the trail yesterday reminded me of the sweltering hot fieldtrip last August when all the scat was desiccated and tracks were hard to come by in the powdery dust. While sweating and dodging horseflies, we had a great time learning together.

It's gratifying to realize how much we've learned and how many things we've experienced through this program. And how our efforts – be they large or small – impact our natural resources. I think that is what brought us to this program, a love of learning, nature and a respect for the diversity of this state.

My son recently gave me a copy of "A Key to Missouri Trees in Winter". I thought I knew a lot of "stuff" about the outdoors when I started my MMN training in the spring of '05. Now as I stand in the woods for hours staring at bark it becomes all too clear how much I have yet to learn. I am looking forward to all the advanced training sessions, programs, field trips and volunteer opportunities the newly elected officers are planning for the coming year.

I appreciate the chance to serve as your president for another year while learning and volunteering with the members of the Boone's Lick Chapter.



## MEETING MINUTES

### **Boone's Lick Chapter Missouri Master Naturalist Meeting January 10, 2008**

The Boone's Lick Chapter of the Master Naturalists held their regular monthly meeting on January 10, 2008, at the Boone County Extension Office. President Suzanne Wright presided. Also present were Meredith Donaldson, Vanessa Melton, David Silvey, Jody Stotsky, Jack Dillard, Alice Havard, Steffanie Abel, Jerry Nichols, Dan Reeves, Carl Armontrout, Carolyn Doyle, Phil Knocke, Dinah Gastineau, Jeff Koppelman, Susan Hazelwood, Pam Close, Troy and Janine Gordon, Gail White, Sharon Reed, Sally Swanson, Jane Fore and Don Day.

At 6:30, our speaker, Jim Low, was introduced. He has been a writer for the Missouri Department of Conservation for the past 17 years, and gave an interesting, informative, challenging, (use those adjectives!) program on Breathing Life into Nature Writing.

At 7:40 the group helped themselves to snacks, and at 8:00 president Suzanne called the business meeting to order.

I. Don Day announced the new Master Naturalist classes will start on Feb. 25, and asked for volunteers from the group to each host one class session.

Name tags were presented to Steffanie Abel, Susan Hazelwood and Phil Knocke. Gail White received her Dogwood recertification pin, and it was noted that although Jody Stotsky was recognized at last month's meeting for reaching her 250 hour milestone, her name was not listed in the Dragonflyer.

Suzanne announced Earth Day will be April 20, (rain date the 27<sup>th</sup>), and that the MN booth will be in Education Alley. There will be a sign-up closer to the date.

Suzanne asked all board members to get together after the meeting, to schedule a regular board meeting.

There will be a Wild Ones meeting Saturday, the 12<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00am.

II. Jack Dillard has nothing new on volunteer activities--they're all listed on the website.

III. Susan Hazelwood brought to our attention an Audubon program on global warming being held in Kansas City in February. This does not meet the criteria for advanced training; people may attend for their own enrichment. (See Upcoming Events.)

IV. Standing Committees:

Programs: Steffanie asked for volunteers to help arrange programs; she'd like to have field trips that combine some advanced training with volunteer hours.

Secretary: Carolyn Doyle stated the minutes of the December meeting have been printed in the Dragonflyer.

Treasurer: Alice Havard has no report this month; she will have a full report at the February meeting.

Refreshments: Jane Fore asks members to sign up to bring refreshments to meetings for the next year. A sign-up list was on the back table.

Suzanne reminded everyone to be sure and sign the attendance list.

VII. There will be a meeting of the State Advisory Committee on Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>. Anyone with an issue to present, please contact Cheryl Hardy or Suzanne.

VIII. Announcements:

Please turn in articles for the Dragonflyer to Rachel Pia the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday after the meeting. The same deadline applies to

items for new volunteer opportunities, to Troy, and advanced training to Mary Jane.

Feb. 1 thru 20, there will be a MMN window display at Peckham & Wright Architects, 15 S. Tenth. Rebecca Allen and Suzanne would like to borrow your photos and MMN 'gear' to make this an eye-catching display.

Feb. 20, Suzanne is presenting a program for Columbia Audubon, and could use help in pulling this program together. She asks all MMN members who are also in Audubon to help with the presentation.

The MMN Annual Conference will be May 16 thru 18, in Springfield.

Troy reminded members of on-going volunteer opportunities, as published in the Dragonflyer.

All members are reminded to be sure and LOG YOUR HOURS, but don't log them until after Feb. 12 as the system is being changed.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn Doyle, Secretary*

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT REPORT FROM DECEMBER 15, 2007
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*Submitted by Susan Hazelwood*

The sun didn't come up on December 15. Instead it was a gray day with sleet and snow blowing horizontally. That falling precipitation covered several inches of ice already on all surfaces. The highway patrol recommended "Stay at home unless it is essential you get out."

But of course to central Missouri birders, participating in the annual Columbia Audubon Christmas Bird Count was essential. Other CBC leaders around the state were canceling or delaying their censuses but we rallied on with our event. And while birders counting birds out in the fields numbered 54, about one-

third fewer than usual, the number of bird species they found broke all previous records.

The goal for number of bird species seen in this count circle (a 7.5 mile radius centered at Rockbridge Elementary School) was once 90 species. That was elevated to 95 species when the 90 goal was reached, and when we reached 96 species we reset the goal to 100 species. We recruited more participants, we analyzed habitat, we thought about what species should be possibilities and we scouted potential locations for those missing species. Year after year rolled away and we still couldn't get to the magic century number.

But this year, with a warm fall and early winter, at least until that terrible ice storm the week of the count, we had birds that lingered further north later than usual. Frozen and icy conditions for the few days before the count left Boone County with only a few open pools of water in our largest and deepest lakes. That concentrated the waterfowl making counting species of ducks easier than usual. The ice brought birds to semi-open roadside edges seeking seed and gravel. Folks stuck at home because of the ice had a great day counting birds coming to their feeders as those stations were extremely busy spots. All in all the conditions, while terrible for birds and bird counters alike, were aligned to give us a record setting CBC.

The final participant list included Boone's Lick Chapter Missouri Master Naturalists Jane Fore, Susan Hazelwood, Jeff Koppelman, Sally Swanson, Gail White, and Suzanne Wright. (Forgive me if I missed your name.) Thank you all for your efforts under less than optimal conditions!

Bird species seen that required documentation (because of their rarity in MO or their being unexpected in MO at this time of year) included Dickcissel, Northern Saw-whet Owl, American Pipit, and Brewer's Blackbird. If the documentation for those species is accepted by the MO Bird Record Committee the 2007 Columbia Audubon CBC will net 104 species. AMAZING!!!

## MILESTONES

Two additional species seen during count week but not on count day included Belted Kingfisher and Ring-billed Gull. The most abundant species seen were the rivers of black birds flowing overhead at dawn and dusk (and we're not really sure exactly which species comprised those streams of black birds) followed by 3172 Canada Geese. Counters came up with 38,540 individual birds seen on December 15.

In the spirit of friendly statewide competition we have reported over the past decade that Columbia's CBC is the annual winner of the "getting the most participants out counting birds" category. It appears that this year we might still win that category despite our reduced number of participants, but we will definitely win the "seeing the most bird species" category. Those CBC compilers that delayed counting until later in the two week count period just didn't find as many species as we did.

Some disturbing observations were made during the local CBC; the amount of human development (buildings and parking lots) within the area of Columbia's count circle is growing exponentially. A lot of habitat normally occupied by our feathered friends has disappeared. The countering hopeful news is that we have protected public lands in Boone County that won't be developed and that number has continued to grow within the area of our count circle. Another positive is that the CBC effort gets folks engaged in noticing (and counting) wild birds. It is a wonderful example of citizen scientists gathering data that goes into an international database with over 100 years of observations.

Why don't you plan to participate next year? The count will be on Saturday December 20, 2008. Build your birding skills while you count birds, but even if you're not a birder, there is a role for you as an observer, recorder, or driver.

### **250+ Hours**

Jody Stotsky

Congratulations, and thank you!

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

### **January 16, 2008– PWA Conference Room / 15 S. Tenth Street**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Suzanne Wright. Members attending were:, Steffanie Able, Alice Havard, Pam Close, Rachel Pia, Sally Swanson and Jeff Koppelman.

1. Suzanne passed out an agenda of items to discuss and a sheet on understanding group dynamics.
2. All members were encouraged when emailing to cc: other members of the board, our advisors, committee chairs and members to improve communication and interaction between committees. This should create an understanding of all facets of the chapter's business for all parties involved.
3. Forms: Suzanne will email any electronic forms to any of the committees if needed. Syd will be sending a copy of the Chapter manuals to the newly elected officers.
4. The initial drafting of the Chapter Guidelines will be done by Marie Scruggs, Jeff Koppelman and Suzanne Wright. The draft will be presented to the Board for approval before submitting the final draft to the Chapter for approval.
5. A clarification of Advanced Training criteria was suggested for discussion at the upcoming State Advisory Committee meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January.

6. Web announcement for the Volunteer Opportunities will continue to be submitted by Troy Gordon.
7. Pam Close is our first Chapter Historian.
8. Helen Steinmann has joined Jane Fore on the refreshment committee.
9. Much discussion was held regarding promotion of the Boone's Lick Chapter and the MMN program. Good suggestions were made by all committee members. An attempt was made to draft Rachel into a multifaceted position as Communication Chair to include promotion and press releases. In fairness, other options will be investigated.
10. Suggestions were made for the MMN display in the PWA gallery window for the month of February. Rebecca Allen will supervise setting up the display.
11. Suzanne expressed hope there can be multitasking between committees to include Program/Field Trips with Advanced Training and long range Volunteer Opportunities.
12. Report from Program Committee – Steffanie Able
  1. Steffanie presented a draft of possible programs and field trips for the coming year. Discussion was held as to optimum dates for each program, and who would contact the presenters.
  2. Inviting other organizations for some programs was also discussed.
13. Steffanie suggested a stronger emphasis should be made for Capstone presentation in the future. The best time and location for these presentations was discussed, including short presentations at each regular business meeting or included in the programs at the upcoming training sessions. An attempt should be made to pair the presentation to the program for that training session. Also including a mentor from a previous class in each Capstone group was suggested. Don's advice will be sought regarding whether he thinks this is a workable idea.
14. In an attempt to reconnect with some of the Chapter's original partners, it is hoped a set

schedule of dates for seed collection with John George through the duration of the summer can be arranged. There will be a designated email list as well as notification in the Dragonflyer and the Agenda. (See Upcoming Events.)

The meeting was adjourned by Suzanne at 7:00pm.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Green lawns, blue waters Show-Me Yards & Neighborhoods**

Want to save time and money on yard care that's environmentally friendly? Want to have a great lawn plus get answers to your yard-care problems? Did you know homeowners use 10 times ore chemicals per acre on lawns than farmers use on crops? Ninety percent of U.S. streams sampled contained pesticide residue. Did any of that come from your yard?

This 3-session workshop will include:

- \* Moles, Fungus, & Crabgrass: solving basic problems
- \* Adding nutrients & minerals without adding chemicals
- \* Why consider native plants?
- \* Healthy soil = healthy grass& gardens
- \* How and why to build a rain garden
- \* Resisting the urge to spray: the good, the bad & the ugly bugs.
- \* Equipment & techniques for your best lawn yet.

Wednesdays, Feb 6, 13, & 20 from 6:30-9:00pm. Free and open to the public, registration required. Call 874-7616 to register.

### **National Audubon Society Global Warming Action Training**

WHEN: Saturday, February 9, 2008, 9:00-3:00  
WHERE: Kansas City - Anita Gorman Conservation Discovery Center, Lewis and Clark Room, 4750 Troost, Kansas City, MO 64110

Global warming and its devastating effects on birds and other wildlife have taken center stage as the biggest environmental threat of our lifetime. Even small increases in average global temperatures can have devastating effects on people, wildlife, and the places we live -- rising sea levels, loss of Arctic habitat, extinctions, increasingly intense hurricanes, drought, and famine. Global warming is already having profound effects on birds and other wildlife. We must act now, before it is too late.

Be a part of the solution!

**[Register today for Audubon's free Global Warming Action Training.](#)** Participants will hear briefings about global warming and the public policies that can fight this crisis head on. Come and learn how to meet with your members of Congress, get a letter to the editor published, and organize in your own community to truly make a difference at the local, state, and federal level.

The event is free and open to the public. Lunch will be provided. Contact Audubon's Missouri Global Warming Coordinator Jill DeWitt [jdewitt@audubon.org](mailto:jdewitt@audubon.org), 816-333-3293, for more information. Don't forget to register!

### **Parkapalooza 2008!**

*Friends of Rockbridge State Park*

What: Parkapalooza 2008

When: March 9, 2008, 3:00 – 7:00pm

Where: Unitarian Universalist Church –  
2615 Shepard Blvd.

Who: Public invited:  
Tickets \$10 for adults,  
\$15 for couples, \$25 for families

Why: A Benefit for Friends of Rock Bridge  
Memorial State Park Outdoor  
Education Programs

What was name of Columbia's first industrial center located in Rock Bridge Memorial State Park? What bats can be found in the Devil's Icebox? You can learn these and many more interesting facts about this state park at the Parkapalooza on March 9, 2009, from 3:00 – 7:00pm at the Unitarian Universalist Church -

2615 Shepard Blvd. The Friends of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park (FoRB) is hosting this benefit to support outdoor education programs at and about the state park.

ParkXperts, eight - three member teams, will compete in a single elimination tournament to see which team knows the most about the state park. The Team Entry Fee \$45 (includes admission) for three on team. Each round will be 15 minutes or 30 questions, whichever comes first. Quiz questions will be based on information posted at <http://rockbridge.missouri.org>. New and revised information will be posted on the FoRB website up until one week before the event. Entry is February 29.

Other activities for all ages will include the ParkXploration, hands-on nature activities for children, a silent auction and volunteer recognition. The public is invited to come and learn more about this state park. Tickets can be purchased for \$10 for adults, \$15 for couples and \$25 for families. For more information call 874-0171 or go to the FoRB website: <http://rockbridge.missouri.org>.

### **Prairie Seed Collection Project**

Many of you have expressed an interest in collecting seeds but are a little intimidated by the vastness of the property and limited knowledge of prairie species. John George has agreed to help set up a schedule of seed collection dates spaced approximately ten days apart through out the summer to include weeknight and a few weekend sessions. John will show us what seeds to collect on that date and assist in improving our knowledge of prairie plants. Plans for car pooling will include occasional arrangements for a van by John George. Once the dates are set they will be published in the Dragonflyer and the Agenda. For those who are interested there will be an email/phone list for notification of changes in the schedule related to the weather.

This is an excellent opportunity for anyone interested in prairie restoration, wildflower

identification or spending a few evenings this summer on a prairie. Please contact Suzanne if you are interested in signing up.

## MEET A MASTER NATURALIST

Sally Swanson

### *1. What is the reason you became a Master Naturalist?*

Bobb, my husband, was in the first class and came home from each session bubbling about how awesome it was and suggested I would "eat it up with a spoon." Too true.

### *2. Most amazing, bizarre, disgusting, odd or awe-inspiring thing you have seen or experienced in the course of Master Naturalist activities?*

That would have to be the first convention at the camp by Rolla. Every minute was jam-packed with interesting and new things. I remember thinking what a warm fuzzy feeling we all had just being with others with the same interests and knowing that we could somehow make a difference. The newness of it all was exciting.

### *3. Favorite service project thus far?*

I can't choose between bird banding and seed gathering. That sounds pretty lame, but both take place where there is quiet and a comforting feeling of nature and God's presence that I love.

### *4. Favorite Missouri native?*

First of course would be Bobb Swanson – born in Kansas City. A close second is rattle snake master.

### *5. Something folks would never guess about you?*

I can't imagine that everyone doesn't already know everything there is to know about me. I'm very open and don't keep much to myself. I talk almost constantly, so if you don't know much about me, you just haven't been listening. Here's something you might not have known. I went to the 1960 world's fair in

Seattle and vomited by the Danish food pavilion because of the icky smell of fish. I was a real joy on that trip.

### *6. Anything else you'd like us to know?*

I just wish there was enough free time in my life to do all the volunteering that I want to do with the Master Naturalists. There's nothing more fun than being with people I like doing the things I like and maybe making a difference in the ecology of Missouri.

## ADVANCED TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

**Columbia Aquatic Restoration Project**  
CARP (Columbia Aquatic Restoration Project) is a new volunteer program designed to support the Columbia Parks & Recreation Department in implementing an aquatic plant and shoreline management plan.

Participants will learn about lake and pond ecology during three training classes and hands on training labs. After the course, you will assist the city horticulturist with organized projects.

Please note: CARP projects are scheduled on Saturday mornings. We ask that you consider this before you register for this volunteer program.

The 2008 CARP class will be held on March Mondays 3, 10, and 17, 2008 at the Parks Management Center located at 1507 BL70 W.

View the [2008 CARP brochure and application](#).

*Note that the CARP classroom hours count as advanced training for us, and the service hours may be counted as well.*

### **Pond Management Workshop**

Tuesday March 4th 6:30 - 9 pm  
At Boone Electric Coop, 1413 Rangeline Road  
in Columbia.

Workshop is put on by the MDC and Boone  
Co. NRCS and SWCD. Topics include site  
selection, construction, stocking, fisheries  
management, and nuisance wildlife. To  
register, call 573-884-6861.

## FEBRUARY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

Below are the volunteer opportunities for  
February and ongoing projects. Additional  
information on each project is at:

<http://extension.missouri.edu/masternaturalist/columbia/VolunteerOpportunities/Februaryvolunteeropportunities.pdf>. Please contact the  
person indicated for more detailed information  
on any of the projects. Note that if a project is  
listed as "not yet approved," you will need to fill  
out a Service Project Form (available at  
<http://extension.missouri.edu/masternaturalist/columbia/Projectapproval.htm>). You will be  
notified via e-mail of the project's approval or if  
there are any questions. Once approval is  
granted for any person, it is approved for  
everyone, so it is only necessary to submit one  
form per project.

### **February Volunteer Opportunities**

#### **CACHE Birding Trips: Every Wednesday, 7:30am**

*Sponsored by The Columbia Audubon Society,  
Missouri Department of Conservation, and The  
Audubon Society of Missouri.*

These are birding trips with Bill Clark. Meet at  
7:30am (don't be late) at the southwest corner  
of the Parkade Center parking lot. The  
destination will be decided the day of the trip.  
Contact Vanessa Melton at 573-864-3905 or  
[vanndawn@hotmail.com](mailto:vanndawn@hotmail.com). Project is approved.

### **Great Backyard Bird Count:**

**Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup> through Monday,  
February 18<sup>th</sup>**

*Sponsored by Friends of Big Muddy and the  
Big Muddy National Fish and Wildlife Refuge*  
Volunteers count the total number of birds  
seen at one of the eight refuge units. To  
participate, contact us and let us know which  
refuge unit you would like to count birds on and  
what day (or days) you would like to count  
birds. Birds can be counted on any of the four  
days of the count, or you can conduct the  
same count on each of the four days, etc.  
See:

[http://www.friendsofbigmuddy.org/next\\_outing.htm](http://www.friendsofbigmuddy.org/next_outing.htm)  
for more information. Contact Troy  
Gordon at [friends@friendsofbigmuddy.org](mailto:friends@friendsofbigmuddy.org) or  
call 573-424-9051.

### **Ongoing Opportunities**

#### **School Natural Areas: Ongoing**

Help local schools restore and maintain their  
natural areas. A volunteer contact is needed  
for each school with an area, and in some  
cases a team is needed. Contact Lea Langdon  
at [langtrea@gmail.com](mailto:langtrea@gmail.com) or 447-1257. Project is  
approved.

#### **City of Columbia Natural Resources Inventory: Data collection can be done until April 1.**

*Sponsored by Columbia, MO*

Select an area to collect information on the  
location and type of trees. This may be your  
private property, in a city park or on other  
public property. Second, collect data by  
walking the area and completing a checklist of  
the type of vegetation and trees present, and  
sketching on a map. Contact John Fleck at  
874-7659 or [jef@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:jef@GoColumbiaMo.com). Project  
is not yet approved.

#### **Project Seeds- Students, the Environment, and Endangered Species Ongoing starting in the fall with training this summer**

*Sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
Service, Ecological Services Columbia Office*

Volunteers will lead presentations on Boone County endangered species in Columbia schools (5<sup>th</sup> grades). They will also follow up presentations with installing and maintaining an aquarium in the school and hosting a book fair to purchase wildlife books for the school libraries.

Contact [Becky\\_Clearwater@fws.gov](mailto:Becky_Clearwater@fws.gov) or Charlie Scott at [Charlie\\_scott@fws.gov](mailto:Charlie_scott@fws.gov) Phone: 573-234-2132. Project is approved.

**Columbia Fishery Resources Office, Ongoing, typically weekdays throughout the year**

*Sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.* Volunteers join fishery staff for day long trips to the field where they will collect, tag, and measure fish, and assess fish habitat quality. Volunteers may also work in the lab to aid in fish identification analysis of field data. Contact: Joanne Grady at [Joanne\\_Grady@fws.gov](mailto:Joanne_Grady@fws.gov) or 573-234-2132, ext. 101. Project is not yet approved.

**Bulletin Board Update at Rock Bridge Memorial State Park, Flexible scheduling**

Volunteers are needed to drive to the park's four bulletin boards, open and close them with a power drill and add/remove flyers and posters. Work can be done on your own time if you have your own power drill and vehicle or between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. if you need to use park equipment/vehicle. Updates usually needed 2-3 times per month during busy seasons (April-October), and once a month during slower seasons (November-March). Contact: Kathryn DiFoxfire at [rock.bridge.memorial.state.park@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:rock.bridge.memorial.state.park@dnr.mo.gov) or Roxie Campbell at [roxie.campbell@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:roxie.campbell@dnr.mo.gov) 573-449-7402. Project is approved.

**Raptor Rehabilitation Project, Ongoing**

*Sponsored by Raptor Rehabilitation Project.* Care for sick or injured raptors; feed and provide activities to captive, wild animals; create, improve and deliver presentations. Contact: Erin West, President, at [eedw76@mizzou.edu](mailto:eedw76@mizzou.edu) for details and training. Project is approved.

**Prairie Fork Conservation Area Field Trip Naturalists**

*Sponsored by Missouri Dept. of Conservation, University of Missouri, Prairie Fork Trust.* Prairie Fork CA needs naturalists to staff environmental education stations during field trips for school students. Most programs take place M - F from ~ 9 am to 2 pm. Most programs involve 3 small group activities from 9am till noon with children rotating through stations and one large group activity after lunch. Help is most needed during morning activities. Contact: Benedict Nagy at (573)254-3262, or [benedict62@yahoo.com](mailto:benedict62@yahoo.com). Project is approved.

**Friends of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park Explore Rock Bridge, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month**

*Sponsored by Friends of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park.* Explore Rock Bridge provides opportunities for the public to explore different park resources and participate in service projects. Volunteers needed to assist trip leader with hike each month and to plan future programs. Contact: Meredith Donaldson at [Mjdonsn@aol.com](mailto:Mjdonsn@aol.com) or 815-9255. Project is approved.

**Landowner Contacts Database, Flexible hours until completed.**

*Sponsored by the Missouri Department of Conservation.* Volunteer will log landowner contact folders by location. Files date back to the 1940s and recording assistance provided on specific properties in the past will provide an account of historical management allowing MDC to better assess property needs. Location: Fulton. Contact Josh Stevens at [Josh.Stevens@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Josh.Stevens@mdc.mo.gov) or 573-592-1412. Project is approved.

**Friends of Big Muddy Activities, Ongoing dates throughout the year.**

*Sponsored by Friends of Big Muddy.* Most opportunities are on units of the Big Muddy National Fish & Wildlife Refuge. Check <http://www.friendsofbigmuddy.org> for current opportunities or sign up for list serve announcements of activities by e-mailing [FriendsofBigMuddy-](mailto:FriendsofBigMuddy-)

[subscribe@yahoogleroups.com](mailto:subscribe@yahoogleroups.com). Contact Troy Gordon at [friends@friendsofbigmuddy.org](mailto:friends@friendsofbigmuddy.org) or call 573-424-9051. Projects are approved.

**CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS!**

Sometimes a good story needs the right audience. Do you have a story to share with others who will appreciate it? Did you read a great book that you'd like to recommend? Send submissions to [Rachel.Pia@gmail.com](mailto:Rachel.Pia@gmail.com) for inclusion in the newsletter.

Birth, life, and death -- each took place on the hidden side of a leaf.

Toni Morrison

### 2008 OFFICERS

President Suzanne Wright  
[suzwright@centurytel.net](mailto:suzwright@centurytel.net)

Secretary Carolyn Doyle  
[carolynddoyle@netscape.net](mailto:carolynddoyle@netscape.net)

Treasurer Alice Havard  
(no email address)

573 445-4624  
6451 N. Creasy Springs Rd  
Columbia, MO 65202

State Advisory Committee Representatives:  
Cheryl Hardy, Suzanne Wright

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Advanced Training Mary Jane Wheeling  
[wheelmj@centurytel.net](mailto:wheelmj@centurytel.net)

Chapter Historian Pamela Close  
[pclose@columbia.k12.mo.us](mailto:pclose@columbia.k12.mo.us)

Communication Rachel Pia  
[Rachel.Pia@gmail.com](mailto:Rachel.Pia@gmail.com)

Project Approval Jack Dillard  
[3js1948@sbcglobal.net](mailto:3js1948@sbcglobal.net)

Refreshments Jane Fore  
[jfore@centurytel.net](mailto:jfore@centurytel.net)

### Chapter Co-advisors:

University of Missouri Extension: Don Day,  
[daydr@missouri.edu](mailto:daydr@missouri.edu)

Missouri Department of Conservation: Jeff  
Koppelman, [Jeff.Koppelman@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Jeff.Koppelman@mdc.mo.gov)

## NEXT MEETING

Thursday, March 13, 2008

### Missouri Master Naturalist State Conferences

2008 - Hosted by the Springfield Chapter, May 16, 17 and 18<sup>th</sup>, at the Clarion Hotel and Springfield Nature Center.

2009 - Hosted by the Ozark Chapter in West Plains; date TBD.



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