



## ~ The Dragonflyer ~

Vol. 4 No. 11

Boone's Lick Chapter

November, 2009

### NOVEMBER MEETING

**Thursday, November 12; 6:30pm**  
Extension Office

#### **The Role of Citizen Scientists: From Data Collection to a Report to Congress.**

Does the data collected by MO's Master Naturalists have value? How is our data used? As volunteers can we make a difference at the national level? Come learn about the work of citizen scientists in many different arenas. The specific example of Christmas Bird Count data resulting in a State of the Birds report to Congress will be discussed.

**Susan Hazelwood**

*Program has been approved for advanced training.*

Refreshments: Dessert: Sally Swanson; Non-dessert: Angela Belden; Beverages: Anna Nowack.

*Chapter t-shirts and other gear will be available for purchase. See [Get Your Gear Here](#) for details.*



### PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

Meredith Donaldson

Every person who values the natural world should read *A Sand County Almanac* by Aldo Leopold. If you have not, it is time to do so. In chronicling a year on his farm in Wisconsin, he discusses the importance of having a land (environmental) ethic. Leopold's ethic is stated simply: "Basically, a thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community, and wrong when it tends otherwise." These ideas are not new to us, but were sorely needed when *A Sand County Almanac* was published 1948. And, they are needed even more today since most of our population no longer lives close enough to the land to learn nature's lessons first hand.

I have just returned from a day at Bull Shoals Research Center (southwest of Branson, MO) participating in the Leopold Education Project. There, I was immersed in the reflective way Leopold asks us to explore the natural world and our relationship to it. It was a wonderful opportunity to gain new understanding and appreciation through activities that were meaningful and coherent. The experience brought back memories. I began my journey as a naturalist studying under Leopold's students at the University of Wisconsin. It was the time outdoors that I remember the most. A field trip would begin by standing quietly and waiting... for our professor to speak. As I was waiting for something to happen, I looked at the prairie grasses blowing in the wind, noticed a bird dip into the grass, followed the action of a grasshopper and tried to predict in which direction the next jump would take it, noticed that there were three flowers nearby, one with an insect... Finally, my professor spoke, "How do you know the wind?" By the end of this trip, we learned about adaptations of the prairie vegetation and animals, and could identify a number of species and their interactions. Why do I remember this field trip and others like it after all these years? I think as a result of the professor's Socratic method of teaching and use of questions, we not only experienced the prairie and put together its story by ourselves. This year I plan to return to *A Sand County Almanac* and read the chapter for each month in that month. What book or writings have helped you in building your land ethic?



MEETING MINUTES  
Carolyn Doyle, Secretary

Missouri Master Naturalists  
Boone's Lick Chapter  
Minutes of Meeting  
October 8, 2009

The Boone's Lick Chapter of MMN met at 6:30pm on Thursday October 8, 2009, at the University of Missouri Extension Office, Columbia, Missouri, for their regular monthly meeting. Present were Meredith J. Donaldson, Vanessa Melton, David Silvey, Carolyn Doyle, Dan Reeves, Sally Swanson, Chris Egbert, Kay Conklin, Beverly Boyd, Billy Dooling, Alice Havard, Susan Hazelwood, Phil Knocke, S. K. Lutton, Carol Sattler and Hugh Harrison.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 by President Meredith Donaldson, who introduced our speaker for the evening, Rochelle Rankin, MDC Resource Scientist. Her topic was "The Snakes of Missouri," a very interesting and informative power-point presentation. This program has been approved as one hour of advanced training for those who attended.

A brief break was taken at 7:50 for cider, and the business meeting was resumed at 8:00.

No old or new business was brought before the group.

For Service, Training, and Volunteer Opportunities, please refer to the current issue of the **Dragonflyer**.

Standing Committees:

Treasurer: Alice Havard reported a balance of \$250.27, no change from last month.

Program: Meredith reported for Angela, next month's program will be a Bird Report, given by Susan Hazelwood.

Announcements:

Turn in articles for the **Dragonflyer** to Rachel Pia by October 19.

Remember to log your hours/check the MMN website.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm

## CHAPTER ELECTIONS!

The December 10<sup>th</sup> chapter meeting will include election of Chapter officers for the year 2010 and one State Advisory Committee Representative for a two-year term (2010-2012). Everyone who has completed the training program and is a member in good standing is eligible to vote and to hold office.

If you would like to be a candidate for an office, or would like to suggest a candidate, please contact Suzanne Wright, Nomination Committee Chair, at [suzwright@centurytel.net](mailto:suzwright@centurytel.net) or 573-446-2217.

A slate of candidates for office will be emailed to the membership no later than Wednesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> (with paper copy to those not using email) This information will also be include in the December Dragonflyer. In addition, nominations will be accepted by the Nominating Committee until the evening of December 10th when a final call for nominations from the floor will be made. A brief review of election procedures follows.

Members are able to nominate themselves or others from the floor December 10th, however if a nomination is made from the floor and the person nominated is not present, nominators are requested to have received prior approval from the person they are nominating. The term of office is for one calendar year. Officers may be re-elected for a succeeding term, the total term of office not to exceed two consecutive calendar years. A member may return to the same office position after a period of three years.

The election shall be by secret ballot which will be available the evening of December 10<sup>th</sup>. Winners are determined by simple majority. All members (those who have completed their initial 40 hours of class training and have accrued volunteer service time during the course of the current year have one vote. *There is no provision for absentee ballots.* The new Board of Directors (comprised of the elected officers and our two Chapter Advisors) shall assume their duties at the conclusion of the last general membership meeting before the end of the year.

Our chapter has defined the four elected officers and their duties as:

◆ **President:** The President chairs the Board, presides at Chapter and Board meetings, appoints standing committees, oversees Chapter activities, serves as the point of contact with the state Master Naturalist coordinators, and transfers information from the state program coordinators to Chapter members.

◆ **Vice President:** The Vice President is responsible for the monthly chapter meeting programs, co-chairs the Advanced Training committee and assumes the duties of the President when the President is absent or temporarily unable to carry out her/his duties.

◆ **Secretary:** The Secretary keeps a written record of Chapter activities, compiles minutes and reports on Chapter meetings and conducts written correspondence pertaining to the Chapter.

◆ **Treasurer:** The Treasurer is responsible for all financial records of the Chapter, collects and disburses Chapter funds as directed by the Board and provides an annual financial status update at the last Chapter meeting of the calendar year.

### **State Advisory Committee Representative (2010-2012)**

The Statewide Advisory Committee (SAC) representative will serve a two-year term starting in January 2010. The advisory committee consists of two representatives from five regions of the state. Representatives must have achieved initial Master Naturalist certification and be a member in good standing to serve on the advisory committee.

The purpose of the SAC is to advise the state coordinators in matters impacting chapter operations and to participate in program growth.

- \* Ensure consistency of participant experience across chapters
- \* Help ensure public perception of the program is accurate and positive
- \* Help coordinators articulate and communicate the appropriate standards of conduct (e.g. advocacy, use of title, etc.) to participants
- \* Represent the program needs of the regions or agencies they represent
- \* Communicate programmatic issues, and ideas from the participants to the program coordinators and sponsoring agencies, as well issues, ideas and policy decisions from the program coordinators and sponsoring agencies to the participants.

The advisory committee generally meets three times a year, one of which is in conjunction with the annual conference. The next meeting is usually scheduled January 31 in Jefferson City. Committee members earn service hours for their work on the committee and when possible MDC reimburses mileage to attend meetings.

### **Committee Chairs, Appointed Positions**

Additionally, the chapter has identified several standing committees with various duties. The membership of these committees is approved by the Board of Directors, and the chairs of these committees are appointed by the President. However, the Nominating Committee will collect names of those interested in serving as committee chair while receiving nominations for officers. Note that those interested in serving on the committees with the chairmen should contact Suzanne Wright prior to the election, or the new chairman or the chapter president following the election. The following are the standing committees and other Chapter positions:

- ◆ **Project Approval & Volunteer Opportunities Committee**
- ◆ **Advanced Training Committee (Co-chaired with VP)**
- ◆ **Communications Chair**
- ◆ **Chapter Historian**
- ◆ **New Class Planning Committee**

Please note that fulfilling the duties of officers and committee members constitutes administrative service, and should be counted when reporting your volunteer hours for the program.

## MISSOURI ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Lea Langdon and Meredith Donaldson attended the MEEA Conference in Ozark, Missouri in mid October. We would welcome the opportunity to share information from the sessions and from networking with other participants. Are you familiar with the Leopold Education Project, Conservation Frontiers, or Nature Unleashed? We have the materials from these programs as well as others on Population in the Environment, Swiss Cheese: Karst Ecology, Furry Fur Balls (mammals), Outdoor Classrooms, and What Research Says about Environmental Education. Many of these conference sessions are on a CD.

A highlight of the conference was receiving the Outstanding Service Award on behalf of Missouri Master Naturalists. Lea and Meredith and two Master Naturalists from the Chert Glades Chapter in Joplin represented all the state Master Naturalists in accepting this award.

## GET YOUR GEAR HERE

Sally Swanson will have MMN t-shirts and other items available for sale at the November meeting. She will also have a catalog for perusal if you would like to order additional items. Please plan to pay with cash or check. All purchase prices include a donation to the Chapter. Get cool stuff, help the Chapter!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*If you would like to earn service or advanced training hours for any listed events, please see the instructions for submitting projects for approval under the "Volunteer Opportunities" or "Advanced Training" sections.*

**Saturday Morning Science**, Saturdays through the semester

These free, one-hour lectures are held in the Monsanto Auditorium of the Life Sciences Center at MU at 10:30am on Saturdays. More information on the program and individual presentations may be found at <http://.SatScience.Missouri.edu>. Upcoming topics:

Nov 7: Autism's Causes & Treatments

Nov 14: Cure You or Cripple You?

(break)

Dec 5: What Is Superconductivity?

Dec 12: The Chemistry of NASCAR.

**National Association of Interpreters National Workshop**, November 17-21, Hartford, CT.

The 2009 NAI National Workshop will provide a wealth of information and rejuvenation. The professional development and networking opportunities at every NAI workshop include inspiring and

informative [keynote speakers](#), [concurrent sessions](#) and [preworkshop training](#) in 13 different tracks, [special events](#), and [offsite sessions](#) that allow you to learn about a unique corner of the country.

The workshop slogan, “Navigating Change, Revolutionizing Interpretation” is an apt one, as our world, our audiences and our economy change at an ever-quickening pace. The NAI workshop will provide you with the tools needed to adjust and adapt to these changes. Join interpreters from around the world to share your experience, interests and ideas. Join us at the 2009 NAI National Workshop in Hartford. For more information, go to: <http://interpetnet.com/workshops>.

**Naturalist Notes**, Runge Nature Center, Sunday, November 22 , 3:00pm - 4:00pm

Ages: Adults and Parents with mature children. Join us as we celebrate writing that is inspired by the love of living animals and plants. We will read words penned by some of our favorite naturalists throughout history. Their observations of nature are as numerous and varied as they are, so we are limiting our sections. Come see who we feature and bring a short selection written by your favorite naturalist. We will set aside time for you to read, if you choose. Reservations required, call 573-526-5544. Reservations are required by: Saturday, November 21.

<p><b>ADVANCED TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES</b> (All approved unless otherwise noted)</p>
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**Native Seed Propagation Workshop** sponsored by Hawthorn Chapter, Native Plant Society.  
Dates/locations: TBD. 3 sessions (November 2009, January 2010, and Spring 2010), 2-3 hours each.

Session 1 – seed identification and collecting, going on now; weekday afternoons.

Session 2 – seed propagation workshop, in January.

Session 3 – potting party, Spring.

Hawthorn member Becky Erickson will give a demonstration on how to collect and start native plants from seeds collected in the summer and fall of 2009. Afterwards, workshop participants will be given the opportunity to start seeds of their own. Cost of workshop will be cost of materials used for seed starts (soil, pots, etc.)

For more information, contact Vanessa Melton at [VannDawn@gmail.com](mailto:VannDawn@gmail.com).

**Inland Bird Banding Association Meeting**, Nov 6-8, St. Louis.

Anyone interested in birds is invited to attend the 2009 Inland Bird Banding Association (IBBA) meeting, November 6-8, hosted by the World Bird Sanctuary. IBBA is a regional association supporting bird banding as a useful tool in the study of migration and biology of inland birds. The inland region stretches from Saskatchewan and Manitoba in the north to Texas in the south. It includes most Midwestern states.

The meeting will include a presentation by Brad Jacobs, Missouri State Ornithologist of the Missouri Department of Conservation regarding his work at Pico Bonito on Friday evening and a live bird presentation by Walter C. Crawford, Jr. and staff of the World Bird Sanctuary on Saturday evening.

Saturday morning sessions will include an early morning driving tour of the Lone Elk St. Louis County Park and then a behind the scenes tour of the World Bird Sanctuary. Presentation of Papers and Workshops will be Saturday afternoon.

For more information, and to register for the conference, visit the [IBBA website](#). Contact [Linda Tossing](#) (also Chair of the Missouri Bird Conservation Initiative) with any questions.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Below are the current volunteer opportunities and ongoing projects, as well as announcements of other events. 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.

To add your project to the list of volunteer opportunities, please contact Melissa Bedford [BedfordM@Missouri.edu](mailto:BedfordM@Missouri.edu) or Laura Sweets [SweetsL@Missouri.edu](mailto:SweetsL@Missouri.edu).

### November & Upcoming Volunteer Activities

#### Outdoor Classroom Workdays

Wed, Nov 11: 1-3 Rock Bridge High School rain garden.

Please bring your work gloves and hand tools. *Please contact Lea if you plan to be there.*

Note: if interested, Lea can put you on the email list for Work Day updates, reminders, and schedule changes. [langtrea@gmail.com](mailto:langtrea@gmail.com) or 864-7647. Project is approved.

#### Raingarden Workdays, Missouri River Communities Network (MRCN)

There is nothing scheduled at the present. If weather changes and there is a need for volunteers, I will email the list of interested participants.

For more information, or to sign up to be on the list, contact Lea Langdon at [langtrea@gmail.com](mailto:langtrea@gmail.com) or 864-7647. Project is approved.

### Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities

#### School Natural Areas/Outdoor Classrooms

Many of our local schools have nature areas that have been neglected and could use some volunteer assistance. These areas include prairies and woodlands, small butterfly gardens or sensory gardens, and rainwater gardens. The following elementary schools are volunteer sites: Blue Ridge, Fairview, Mill Creek, New Haven, Rock Bridge, West Boulevard, plus Rock Bridge High School. Hallsville and Harrisburg are also possible sites, and there are other schools that have Outdoor Classrooms, but we have not yet begun working with them. If you are close to another school and curious about

volunteering there, I can tell you what I know about their natural areas, and we can try to get something going there. Opportunities exist to work at just one school, or to be called or emailed for work days at different schools.

Derby Ridge is beginning to plan a new Outdoor Classroom, so if anyone is in that area and interested in getting involved, let me know and I will pass on the info.

Contact Lea Langdon at [langtrea@gmail.com](mailto:langtrea@gmail.com) or 864-7647 to sign up. Project is approved.

### **CACHE/SPARKS Birding Trips – Wednesday mornings**

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

These are birding trips with Bill Clark, former president of The Columbia Audubon Society. Meet Bill 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 depending on who is there and where they want to go. Contact Bill Clark at 573-474-4510 to confirm you are attending. Project is approved.

### **Native Plant Seed Collection for Natural Community Restoration, May through December, 2009.** Sponsored by the Missouri Department of Conservation

This ongoing project's aim is the restoration of MDC prairie, glade, and savanna sites in Boone, Callaway, Audrain, and Randolph counties. Volunteers will learn in a field setting about plant communities, species of native flowers and grasses, plant identification, and both seed collection and planting techniques.

We had beautiful weather for our trip to Auxvasse Natural Area on October 16th. After collecting "seed salad" we stopped at the seed barn to spread out our collections for the day and survey the results of our efforts toward this year's prairie restoration. The group then adjourned to Crane's for lunch before our return trip to Columbia. To participate in ongoing collection trips, seed processing, or plantings, all held during the work day, please contact John George at 573-882-8388 or [JohnGeorge@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:JohnGeorge@mdc.mo.gov). Project is approved.

### **Troy Gordon Memorial Hummingbird Garden**

Sponsored by the Audubon Society of Missouri and Boone's Lick Chapter of the Missouri Master Naturalists

Thanks go out to everyone who worked on this project. The plants have done a wonderful job of becoming established and blooming beyond expectations since their installation last spring. The mulch in the beds, walkways and path through the butterfly garden look great. Work on this project over the winter will consist of creating a tri-fold leaflet about hummingbirds, native plants, the memorial garden and the work Troy & Janine did banding hummingbirds.

To participate in this project, contact Suzanne Wright at 573-446-2217 or [Suzwright@centurytel.net](mailto:Suzwright@centurytel.net). Project is approved.

### **Phenology Observation- Ongoing.**

Sponsored by the USA National Phenology Network.

Phenology is the study of recurring plant and animal life cycle events, or phenophases, such as leafing and flowering of plants, maturation of agricultural crops, emergence of insects, and migration of birds. Many of these events are sensitive to climatic variation and change, and are simple to observe and record. As an USA-NPN observer, you can help scientists identify and understand environmental trends so we can better adapt to climate change.

The USA National Phenology Network brings together citizen scientists, government agencies, non-profit groups, educators and students of all ages to monitor the impacts of climate change on plants in the United States. The USA-NPN is looking for volunteers to help monitor 200 plant species found across the United States. This effort will eventually expand to include animals and physical phenomena, such as bird migrations and ice out on ponds. You may explore their website at [www.usanpn.org](http://www.usanpn.org) to learn more about USA-NPN and become an observer. Training is available on the website and reporting is done via that site. Project is approved.

### **Raptor Rehabilitation Project - Ongoing**

The most rewarding volunteer experience ever! We have new opportunities for volunteers to begin working with birds sooner. Please contact us to set up training sessions just for you, so you can begin to feed these amazing creatures. You can then become more familiar with our education birds and all of the amazing ways you can interact with them and continue educating delighted audiences throughout mid-Missouri about the importance of wildlife conservation. This is a rare and special opportunity that is not available in most areas. We are truly lucky to have the chance to do so, so why not check it out?

Contact: Amber Edwards, Volunteer Coordinator, at 314-550-0201. Let her know you're a Master Naturalist. Project is approved.

*To find the universal elements enough;  
to find the air and the water exhilarating;  
to be refreshed by a morning walk or an evening saunter;  
to be thrilled by the stars at night;  
to be elated over a bird's nest or a wildflower in spring ...  
these are some of the rewards of the simple life.*

*John Burroughs, Naturalist (1837-1921)*

## 2009 Officers

President	Meredith Donaldson <a href="mailto:MJDonlsn@aol.com">MJDonlsn@aol.com</a>	Advanced Training Co-Chair	Sally Swanson <a href="mailto:sal@socket.net">sal@socket.net</a>
Vice President	Angela Belden <a href="mailto:Angela@stumod.com">Angela@stumod.com</a>	Chapter Historian	Beverly Boyd <a href="mailto:SSBNBAB@hotmail.com">SSBNBAB@hotmail.com</a>
Secretary	Carolyn Doyle <a href="mailto:CarolynDDoyle@netscape.net">CarolynDDoyle@netscape.net</a>	Communications Chair	Rachel Pia <a href="mailto:Rachel.Pia@gmail.com">Rachel.Pia@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Alice Havard <a href="mailto:AEHavard@yahoo.com">AEHavard@yahoo.com</a>	Project Approval & Volunteer Opportunities	Melissa Bedford & Laura Sweets <a href="mailto:BedfordM@Missouri.edu">BedfordM@Missouri.edu</a> <a href="mailto:SweetsL@Missouri.edu">SweetsL@Missouri.edu</a>
State Advisory Committee Rep, 2008-09	Suzanne Wright <a href="mailto:SuzWright@centurytel.net">SuzWright@centurytel.net</a>	Refreshments	Janie & Robert McArthur <a href="mailto:JBMcArthur@centurytel.net">JBMcArthur@centurytel.net</a> <a href="mailto:RDMcArthur@centurytel.net">RDMcArthur@centurytel.net</a>

### Chapter Co-Advisors

Kent Shannon  
University Extension  
[ShannonD@missouri.edu](mailto:ShannonD@missouri.edu)

Bob Pierce, Interim Co-Advisor  
University Extension  
[PierceR@missouri.edu](mailto:PierceR@missouri.edu)

## NEXT MEETING

**Thursday, December 10; 6:30pm**  
**Extension Office**

### **Annual Elections & Holiday Potluck!**

Bring your favorite dishes to share. Family members are invited to join us.  
Send your favorite photos of Chapter folks at play in the field to Kent Shannon by December 1<sup>st</sup>  
for inclusion in the slide show.

2010 State Conference: St Louis chapters, October 15-17.

2011 State Conference: Chert Glades, September.



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