



~ The Dragonflyer ~

Vol. 4 No. 8 Boone's Lick Chapter August, 2009

AUGUST MEETING

Thursday, August 13, 6:30-8:30pm  
Extension Office

**Weather**

Mike Rawlins, KMIZ, will be talking about weather - how fronts are formed, types of clouds, tornadoes, etc.

*This program has been approved as advanced training.*

Refreshments: Dessert, Carolyn Doyle; Non-dessert, Alice Havard; Drinks, Sally Swanson.

**Important Membership Vote at August Meeting**

The membership of the Boone's Lick Chapter of the Missouri Master Naturalist will be asked to vote on the By-Laws for our chapter at our meeting this month. The draft prepared by a committee was sent to each member and is posted on our web site for review for 30 days prior to this meeting. This document follows the template that other chapters in the state have used, but has been and can be further amended to meet our chapter's needs.



PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS  
Meredith Donaldson

I have been taking children to explore our nearby state parks this summer. As an interpreter, I have developed some themes for these hikes. At Rock Bridge Memorial State Park the theme is "everything in nature is connected like a web and if you do something to one part of that web, it is felt in another part." Or, for our fishing trips to Finger Lakes State Park, the theme is, "to catch fish you have to know about how they live in their habitat." I use these themes to tie together what we

discover. But, for me – and, perhaps, the children – the memories are the special, magical moments when a child makes a discovery.

A group of preschoolers had just come back from a trip to Conner's Cave and one boy exclaimed, “There is a monster in that hole!” I squatted down to peer in the four inch hole and sure enough there was a big, inch-plus hairy body with an egg mass on the back. There were eight legs easily an inch long each. It shifted a bit to look at me with spider eyes and I resisted my natural reaction --- OH MY, A HUGE SPIDER. I calmly said, “Hey everyone, David found a mama wolf spider.” It was hard to see since it was brown and well camouflaged in the dark hole. We took long turns looking in the hole.

One child approached with a stick. We discussed what it would be like to have a giant poke us with a stick when we were in our bedrooms and decided to only look. Mama wolf spider was probably tired and trying to sleep. Since she does not build a web, she spent last night hunting for grasshoppers, ants, and other insects. Can you see all those eyes she has? She can see well and run after her prey. Did you know some people try to find them at night using flashlights to see the reflection in their eyes? When her babies hatch they will climb onto their mother's back and ride around until partially grown. I cautioned the parents that wolf spiders are not poisonous, though as with all spiders, bites may cause reactions in certain individuals.

What was that thing that was 'zipping' around our fishing poles? Finally one rested on a branch so we could look more closely. Not a humming bird, not a bumble bee, it's a “mosquito hawk” – a dragonfly decorated with Mizzou black and gold that just sparkled in the morning sun. We discussed how dragonflies fit into the life of the pond and discussed their life cycle. Look at those big eyes joined together. I bet that helps them see their prey. We looked closely to see the front legs are thrust forward unlike any other insect. The legs had heavy sticky hairs that interlock making a basket in which the dragonfly scoops its prey. We also noticed that the front and back wings were not connected, which helps them fly so well its almost like trick flying – like a helicopter. Now, I see why some people call dragonflies mosquito hawks. A girl asked, “Is that real gold on its back?” “No.” I said, but thought. “But, it is a golden moment!”



This is close to what our Mizzou dragonfly looked like, but I do not have a scientific name yet.



**MEETING MINUTES**  
Carolyn Doyle, Secretary

Missouri Master Naturalists  
Boone's Lick Chapter  
Minutes of Meeting, July 9, 2009

The regular meeting of the Boone's Lick Chapter, Missouri Master Naturalists, was held at 6:30pm on July 9, 2009, at the University of Missouri Extension Office, Columbia, MO. Present were David Silvey, Vanessa Melton, Suzanne Wright, Sally Swanson, Laura Hillman, Mary Williamson, Janine Gordon, Alice Havard, Clare Melick, Jeff Melick, Steffanie Abel, Robert McArthur, Dan Reeves, Joan Bourbeau, Phil Knocke, Beverly Bond, Susan Lutter, Rachel Pia, Lea Langdon, Meredith Donaldson, Chris Egbert, Hugh Harrison, Jane Fore, Sharon Reed, and MU Extension sponsor Kent Shannon.

President Meredith Donaldson called the meeting to order at 6:35 and introduced our speaker, Carl Gherhart, PhD, Curators Professor of Biological Sciences at the University of Missouri, Columbia. Dr. Gherhart spoke on frog and toad communication, and had videos of several familiar-sounding frogs giving their calls. This program counts as one hour of advanced training for those present.

At 7:40 the group was adjourned for refreshments, and resumed at 8:10 for a business meeting.

I. New Business:

A. By-Law Approval: Copies of the proposed Chapter By-Laws were sent to members by email, and distributed at the meeting. It will also be posted on the MMN website. Members are asked to review this document, which will be voted on for adoption, at the next regular meeting.

II. Old Business:

A. Stream Extravaganza: Meredith reports that Anna Novak did a great job on our display. Unfortunately the event was rained out after about 30 minutes.

III. Service and Training:

A. Newly approved volunteer opportunities. Meredith has information on Nature Detectives, a nature program for children at Rock Bridge State Park.

B. Newly approved advanced training. The Rain Garden Seminar on July 31<sup>st</sup> is not yet officially approved, but probably will be.

IV. Standing Committee Reports:

A. Treasurer: Alice Havard reports we have a current balance of \$134.27. We haven't yet settled accounts with the Columbia Audubon Society on the Troy Gordon Memorial, which may approximately even out financially.

B. Program: Meredith reported for Angela Belden, next month's program will be on weather.

C. Volunteer Opportunities: Kent was asked to give us a brief lesson on logging our volunteer hours at the next meeting.

D. Communications: Rachel asked for any items for the Dragonflyer.

E. Refreshments: Robert McArthur: For next meeting, Alice will bring snacks, Carolyn will bring a dessert and Sally will bring drinks.

F. Historian: Meredith reported for Bev Boyd: Syd Himes needs photos of Master Naturalists at work for publicity for our program.

V. Announcements:

A. Turn in articles for the Dragonflyer to Rachel, agenda items to Meredith and volunteer opportunities to Melissa Bedford or Laura Sweets by Monday, July 20, to be included for next month.

B. Remember to log your volunteer hours.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

## PARTING THOUGHTS

Jeff Koppelman

It has been my professional and personal pleasure to have been involved with your Master Naturalist chapter during the last couple years. It has been an eye-opener for me, seeing how eager to help and well-informed you all are. After being in the conservation business for 25 years, I have seen lots of folks involved with the outdoors and our flora and fauna, and as a group, you know as much about local natural history as anyone. I am giving up the advisor assignment to spend more time getting some studies completed that do not see much progress these days, but I will always have my lesson from the MMN program and the Boone's Lick chapter to refer to when needing inspiration. Thank you.

## 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 "Volunteer Opportunities" or "Advanced Training."*

### **Missouri River 340, August 4-7**

*Cheering squads wanted!* Turn out to watch the racers as they cruise through our area. For more information, go to: <http://rivermiles.com/mr340/>.

### **Schwartz Prairie Potluck Picnic and Campout, August 8**

Enjoy a potluck picnic and camping at Missouri Prairie Foundation's Schwartz Prairie on Saturday, Aug. 8. Dan Zarlenga of St. Louis and Dan Johnson of Kansas City, both amateur astronomers, will have telescopes set up for stargazing.

Naturalists will lead a guided hike on the prairie at 4pm. The potluck picnic is set for 6:00pm. Campers can pitch tents on a mowed area of the prairie. To RSVP, contact Stan Parrish at 417-788-2308, or send an e-mail to [info@moprairie.com](mailto:info@moprairie.com).

Schwartz Prairie is in St. Clair County. Directions: From Hwy 82, take 82 to Hwy. K; turn south on Hwy K and turn west (right) on SW 778. Go 1 mile on SW 778 through timber; then take SW 301 south for two tenths of a mile, then the road becomes SW 800, and you will see the Schwartz Prairie sign on your right. Look for the tent on the prairie and park on property opposite the prairie.

**Friends of Big Muddy/Missouri River Relief** monthly program for August is superseded by the Missouri River 340 race support project.

### **7th Annual Northfork River/Bryant Creek Cleanup, August 15**

Sign-up: Sunburst Ranch, Caulfield, MO Directions: <http://www.sunburstranchcanoe.com/contact.html>  
Sunburst Ranch will provide free camping on Friday and Saturday nights. A hot dog & burger cookout will be provided on Saturday night by Q94 Jack FM Radio. Live music, kayak raffle, and drawings for prizes will take place after the cleanup Saturday. Trash bags will be provided. BRING: sack lunch, hat, sunglasses, boat, canoe, kayak, sunscreen, drinking water, insect repellent, camping gear, friends and family for a day of fun and fellowship. You will be doing the riverways a favor by cleaning them up for our own enjoyment and for the future generations while enjoying the beautiful Ozarks.

### **Friends of Big Muddy Retreat, rescheduled for August 19**

It looks like the evening of August 19, 2009, will accommodate most peoples schedule. I have asked Syd Hime of the Missouri Department of Conservation's Outreach and Education Section to facilitate our meeting. We haven't finalized a meeting location, although Steve Schnarr graciously offered to allow us to use The Missouri River Relief office space on Broadway in Columbia.

Comments, suggestions and questions are all welcome. Contact me or Tim Haller of the Big Muddy NFWR staff. Thank you for your interest and patience.

Tom

Thomas G. Bell, Refuge Manager, Big Muddy National Fish & Wildlife Refuge  
4200 New Haven Road, Columbia, MO 65201; 573/876-1826 ext. 2

### **Operation Clean Stream, August 22**

Description- Open Space Council ST #5 (636) 451-6090 or [www.openspacestl.org](http://www.openspacestl.org) Join thousands of Missouri citizen volunteers to pull trash out from the Meramec River, meeting in many locations from Onondaga Cave downstream to Arnold, MO. Work from the banks or work from a boat; this event averages over 200 cubic yards of trash and over 1,200 tires removed every year. Don't miss out - it's a lot of fun! T-shirts, work gloves and lunch provided in most work locations. Some Upper Meramec Sites will be worked on Sunday, August 23.

### **Race for the Rivers, August 29-30**

Kayakers! Canoeists! Join the fun! The first leg of this staged race will be from either Washington, MO or Klondike County Park to St. Charles Frontier Park on the Riverfront on Saturday. The final leg will be from Blanchette Landing in St. Charles to Columbia Bottoms boat ramp on Sunday. There will also be a Festival on the St. Charles Riverfront with many vendors teaching you all about water conservation. Join the excitement as we watch the racers approach St. Charles on the Missouri River! Several bands will be playing until 7:00pm. Good food! For more info see [www.racefortherivers.org](http://www.racefortherivers.org) Location: Missouri River at St. Charles, MO. Event time: 8:00am. Contact: Charlene Waggoner - phone: 636-498-0772 or email: [greenwaynetwork@gmail.com](mailto:greenwaynetwork@gmail.com).

### **Guided Hike of Experimental Tallgrass Prairie, Saturday, Sept. 12, Shaw Nature Reserve.**

Shaw Nature Reserve biologist Dr. James Trager and Missouri Prairie Foundation board member Bill Davit will lead a guided prairie hike for MPF members at Shaw Nature Reserve's Experimental Tallgrass Prairie. Watch for more details in the August MPF e-newsletter.

**Birds, Bugs and Botany BioBlitz**, Monday, September 14, 7:00am to noon

We are looking for a mix of professional and amateur naturalists to join us for a FREE naturalist's foray on the Missouri River. The objective of the day is to collect species lists by location on birds, insects and plants (and other life) and share our insights on what we discover.

We will be splitting into four groups, attempting to balance skills amongst the groups. Groups will depart by boat to locations along the Missouri River, then disembark to wander the woods and banks and catalogue species encountered. If you are interested in joining this excursion, please contact Steve Schnarr at Missouri River Relief by phone or email, supplying your name, mailing address, phone number, email address and your particular natural interest (birds, bugs, plants, other). Contact info below. Steve will contact you later with directions and more specifics.

We are limited to 34 participants because of space in boats. If you would prefer to do a land-based site, that would be fine.

*Purpose – Bring together professional, amateur and aspiring naturalists for an on-the-river quest to catalogue the life along a small stretch of the Missouri River and to share results and insights.*

What is happening –

We will meet at Eagle Bluffs CA riverside parking lot at 7am. We will discuss the objectives of the day, safety considerations, then split into groups and board boats to explore several different ecotypes along the Missouri River: “Old Growth” cottonwood forest, new growth cottonwood forest, managed wetlands, sandbar and constructed river chute. (NOTE: if foggy conditions do not permit safe passage on the river, groups will explore locations by foot until conditions clear) Some groups will also spend some time drifting along the riverbank, noting bird species along the river edge.

Groups will return to Eagle Bluffs CA at approx. 11am to share and begin compiling results. We will also retrieve an artificial substrate basket from the river to catalogue macroinvertebrate species present. Group will have lunch then be free to go!

We are also looking for a youth/student group that might be interested in joining us after lunch. If you know such a group, or would be interested in giving a short presentation on your specialty to such a group, please let Steve know!

*Contact info:*

Steve Schnarr, Missouri River Relief, Cell: 573.289.2077, Office: 573.443.0292, Email:

[steve@riverrelief.org](mailto:steve@riverrelief.org)

**River Clean-Up**, September 19 - Jefferson City Clean-Up '09.

Noren Access, North Jefferson City - <http://www.riverrelief.org/upcoming/> September 12 to 19. Mid - Missouri River Camp - a week long series of learning events ending with a massive one day clean-up in Jefferson City, celebrating 20 years of the Stream Team Program – For more information: <http://www.riverrelief.org/events/index.html>.

**Effective Wingshooting, the CONSEP Way**, Sept 25 - 27

Runge Conservation Nature Center; 6-8:30 on 25th, 9-4 on 26&27

This is a free seminar, open to the public and will cover numerous topics useful to upland game and migratory game bird hunters. The seminar on the 25th will be at the Runge Conservation Nature

Center, shooting workshop will take place at the Charles A. Green Conservation Area near Ashland. Must attend Friday night seminar to attend the shooting workshop. Free ammunition and lunch provided at shooting seminars. 573 526-5544. *Reservations are required by: Wednesday, September 23.*

**Midwest Environmental Education Conference**, October 14-17, Champaign, Illinois  
The Environmental Education Association of Illinois invites you to attend the 2009 Midwest Environmental Education Conference! The conference strands of Sustainability, Natural History, Administration & Interpretation have created an amazing conference lineup. For more information, go to: [www.eeai.net/annual\\_conf](http://www.eeai.net/annual_conf).

**MEEA Conference**, October 16-18, Ozarks Community Technical College.  
The Missouri Environmental Education Association Conference will be held at the new Richwood Valley Campus of Ozarks Community Technical College, south of Springfield, MO, between Nixa and Ozark, MO, on October 16-18. The Theme this year is Outdoors in the Ozarks. More information will be available at <http://www.meea.org/2009conference.html>. This is an excellent learning and networking opportunity. In past years, some sessions have been submitted for advanced training.

Factoid from Summer 2009 MEEA Newsletter

An oribatid mite and over 100 other species of mites, very distantly related to ticks, are herbivores, slowly but steadily consuming the dead and decaying leaves on the forest floor. There may be several dozen different oribatid species and hundreds of individuals in a single handful of leaf litter. Without them, mineral cycling in forests would slow way down!

**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>.

**ADVANCED TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**  
(All approved unless otherwise noted)

**Rain Garden Seminar**, Friday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, at Boone Electric Co-op. Note: this program was approved for advanced training after the publication of the July *Dragonflyer*.

**Forest & River Dynamics**, August 17 & 18 on the Current River – Pulltight to Round Spring.  
*Courtesy of Confluence Chapter*

Spend a day on the river with these experts:

- Perry Eckhardt- MDC Community Conservationist will discuss how a river works;
- Mark Gruber- MDC Urban Forester will cover Ozark forests;
- Nancy Snider- MDC Education Consultant will talk about Stream Team issues, water's edge wildflowers and river lore;
- Theresa Dunlap & Jennifer Lewis- Soil and Water Conservation District experts who will tell us about soils and how to protect our streams.

Monday, August 17 social and dinner; Tuesday, August 18 float Pulltight to Round Spring. A 6pm August 17, social and dinner will be held at the dining lodge at Montauk State Park.

*Lodging:* Cabins or motel rooms are available at the park for \$61. Make reservations at 573-548-2434. Please tell them you are with the Master Naturalist group. In case you are interested, breakfast is available at 7am and box lunches may be purchased at the dining lodge for \$5 - \$7.25. If you prefer to camp, sites are available in Montauk State Park for \$11 for a basic site or \$19 for an electric site. Make reservations at 573-548-2201 before 3:30 any day.

*Canoes:* Canoes are available from Current River Canoe Rental for \$36 per canoe. If you would like to bring your own boat, it can be transported for you for \$25 per canoe or \$15 per kayak. Please tell them you are with the Master Naturalist group floating from Pulltight to Round Spring. 573-858-3250

*\*Please make your own reservations for lodging and boats.  
Meals and drinks are also "on your own."\**

We should leave Montauk by 8am to drive to Current River Canoe Rental at Pulltight so that we can get onto the water as soon as possible. We plan to be off the water by 4 p.m. The outfitters will shuttle everyone back to Pulltight.

Bring: sunscreen, plenty to drink, food for the day, water shoes; dry shoes for the drive home are really nice!

If you are attending the August 17&18 social and advanced training on the Current River, please email the following info to Joan Twillman at [joan@twillman.com](mailto:joan@twillman.com).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_  
Will you be there for the social and dinner on the 17? \_\_\_\_\_  
Will you be renting from Current River Canoe Rental? \_\_\_\_\_  
Will you be bringing your own boat? \_\_\_\_\_

*Many thanks to our colleagues at the Confluence Chapter for inviting us to join them for this advanced training opportunity.*

**MOBCI**, August 21-22, Days Inn Conference Center, Columbia.  
You're invited to the 2009 Missouri Bird Conservation Initiative Conference!

This year's theme is "How Can we Make a Difference? A Big Picture View of Effective Bird Population Management," and will feature Bob Ford, Supervisory Wildlife Biologist with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Region 4, offering a summary of the recently released "State of the Birds Report." Registration deadline is August 17. For more information: <http://www.mobci.org/documents/2009%20MoBCI%20Agenda%20&%20Registration%20Form.doc>

**Association of Missouri Interpreters Annual Conference**, August 31– September 3, Kansas City. The Elms Historical Resort & Spa, Excelsior Springs, MO.

“Through interpretation, we connect with our past and look ahead to a sustainable future.” For conference information, call Burr Oak Woods at (816) 228-3766 and ask to speak with one of the conference planning team: Stacey Davis, Jim Hawes, Lisa Richter, Kathleen Savaiano, or Lisa LaCombe.

*Under consideration for advanced training.*

## **STREAM TEAM TRAINING**

**VWQM: Level 1 Workshop in Columbia:** Saturday, October 10, 8:30-5:00. (You must have completed the Intro workshop, and reported data, to enroll in the Level 1 workshop.) Registration deadline: September 30<sup>th</sup>. Location: Boone Electric Co-Op, 1413 Rangeline. To enroll online, or to find another session/location to fit your schedule, go to: <http://www.mostreamteam.org/wqlevel1.asp> Reminder: These workshops tend to fill quickly, so be sure to reserve your place soon.

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Below are the 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).

### **August & Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities**

**Urban Population Outreach Program (UPOP)**, Monday, August 3, and other dates TBA. *Cosponsored by Missouri Parks Association, Friends of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park, and area youth agencies*

Field Day on August 3 will provide children who may not have opportunities to experience the recreational and natural resources of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park. Volunteers needed for three hour shifts morning and afternoon leading nature activities. Experience working with children would be helpful, but not required. Training and educational materials will be provided. If you are interested

in volunteering, please contact Meredith Donaldson at 573-289-3018 or [mjdonlson@aol.com](mailto:mjdonlson@aol.com). Project is approved.

### **Rain Garden Installation and Maintenance** , August 5 & 12

*Sponsored by Missouri River Communities Network*

This project will include the installation and maintenance of five non-residential rain gardens in the Columbia area.

We have tentatively scheduled workdays on two Wednesday mornings, August 5 (Rock Bridge High School) & Aug. 12 (West Boulevard Elementary School), beginning at 8am. If you are interested in joining us, please let us know, in case there are any changes &/or additional rain garden work-days. Call 256-2602, or email Lea at [booneraingardens@gmail.com](mailto:booneraingardens@gmail.com). We will also post work day info on our website: <http://www.moriver.org/raingardens.html>

Project is approved.

### **Nature Detectives** – Sat. Aug. 8, Wed. Aug. 12. Sponsored by Friends of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park

Nature Detectives provides guided experiences for parents/grandparents to learn skills for exploring nature with their preschool child or grandchild. Two programs of 1.5 hours each at Rock Bridge Memorial State park are offered to young children (ages 3-6 years old) and their parents or caretakers. Each program includes a hike on a trail and a related hands-on craft activity and is limited to a total of 20 (children and adults). Master Naturalists will help with the activities and may be trained to lead the nature explorations.

Two 1.5 hour programs will be held from 9:00am – 12 noon on the following dates: Sat. Aug. 8, Wed. Aug. 12. If you are interested in interpreting nature to small children and helping parents gain confidence in exploring natural areas with their children, contact Meredith Donaldson at 573-289-3018 or [mjdonlson@aol.com](mailto:mjdonlson@aol.com). Project is approved.

### **BioBlitz** , September 4&5

The annual BioBlitz is organized by graduate students from the University of Missouri—Columbia. This year it will be held on Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area on September 4th-5th. The purpose of a BioBlitz is two-fold: 1) sample the flora and fauna of Eagle Bluffs and create a list of observed species and 2) interact with the public and educate them about, in this case, a wetland ecosystem. We are looking for volunteers to lead walks, as well as set up sampling gear and actually survey for all taxa - herps, inverts, birds, mammals, fish, plants, fungus, etc. Leaders should be knowledgeable of the focal taxa and are responsible for leading the group to search for, and record, organisms, as well as leading their group to any sampling stations that are set-up (by you) for their walk. *Other volunteers are needed to assist in sampling.* This is a great opportunity to learn while giving service! If you would like to be involved in this year's BioBlitz, please review the TENTATIVE schedule below to see what taxon you would like to sample.

Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup>

5:00—7:00pm Herps, birds, aquatic inverts; Evening bird walk, aquatic inverts and tadpoles, opportunistic herp sightings.

7:00—9:00pm Ice cream social; presentation by Raptor Rehabilitation.

9:00—11:00pm Insects, bats, herps. Herpin' along roads and levees, black light for insects, mist-netting and acoustic detection of bats.

Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup>

6:00—8:00am	Birds, mammals, plants. Morning bird walk, live-trap mammals (Sherman/Havahart), wetland plants.
9:00—11:00am	Fish, Meagan Montgomery (fish-friendly structures), Doreen Mengel (wetlands/amphibians), Sampling fish in distribution channel and pools, presentations on wetland-related graduate projects.
11:00am—1:00pm	Lunch; demonstration by amateur nature photographer, etc.
1:00—3:00pm	Wetland plants, bottomland forest, fungi, insects, Bottomland habitats on west side of Eagle Bluffs—need a forester as one of the leaders.
3:00—5:00pm	Bluffs and Overlook walk. Upland habitats on east side of Eagle Bluffs—all taxa; need upland plant person as one of the leaders. For more information or to volunteer, contact Shauna Marquardt at <a href="mailto:shauna.marquardt@mdc.mo.gov">shauna.marquardt@mdc.mo.gov</a> .

*Approval Pending.*

## **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.

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.

MDC will provide all necessary plant identification books, collection bags, and clippers. Carpooling will be provided when possible. Volunteers will want to dress appropriately for field work (sturdy shoes or boots, long pants, and head covering are recommended), bring their own gloves, insect repellent, sun block, and water bottles.

Collection dates will begin in mid-May. Tentative dates furnished by MDC are as follows:

August 6 – Thursday evening- Prairie Fork, restored prairie planting

August 15 – Saturday morning - Danville Glades

September 19 – Saturday morning - TBD

October 8 – Thursday evening – *will be rescheduled* Green Area plantings

October 17 – Saturday morning – Tucker Prairie

To express your interest and be notified of specific arrangements for field trips, 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

Help is needed for ongoing maintenance of the Memorial Garden. The garden has four planted areas that include a swale (that connects to the Butterfly Garden), formal garden, Buckeye Island and pond habitat. Participants will learn valuable information about native Missouri plants, grasses, shrubs and trees and become familiar with their light and water preferences, planting techniques and maintenance requirements. Volunteers will provide their own garden and hand tools, wheelbarrows and gloves as required for that day's activity. Volunteers will want to dress appropriately for field work (sturdy shoes or boots, long pants, and head covering are recommended). Insect repellent and sun block are recommended, as are water bottles.

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

### **Bee Inventory at Overton Bottoms North- Specimen Identification and Mounting**

*Big Muddy National Fish and Wildlife Refuge-Overton Bottoms North Unit.*

Big Muddy National Fish and Wildlife Refuge (Overton Bottoms North)

Data from the inventory will also be used to begin a bee list for the refuge unit. Participants will learn collection and trapping techniques, pinning skills required for mounting the specimens, and identification skills to differentiate between bee species with visits to the MU Entomology Lab. The Big Muddy National Fish and Wildlife Refuge and/or Friends of the Big Muddy will provide all necessary identification books, and bee capture, preservation and mounting equipment. Volunteers will want to dress appropriately for field work (sturdy shoes or boots, long pants, and head covering are recommended). Volunteers will be encouraged to bring their own gloves, insect repellent, sun block, and water.

*The dates listed below are tentative.* They will be subject to change depending on weather/flooding and other factors beyond my control. I will contact you if an event is cancelled. In addition to these dates, we will schedule 2-3 dates for identification at the MU Entomology Museum (late June-August). All trapping/netting will take place at the Overton Bottoms North unit of the Big Muddy National Wildlife Refuge. Take I-70 to the Overton/Wooldridge exit (#111), this is the first exit west of the bridge over the Missouri River. At the end of the exit ramp, turn right. At the stop sign on HWY 98, turn right. This road will cross the RR tracks and turn to gravel. We will meet at the first parking lot on the right (about ½ mile, look for the big pecan trees).

All washing/drying/pinning will take place at our office (4200 New Haven Road). From the Nifong/HWY junction travel east (Nifong becomes New Haven RD) one mile. At the USGS Columbia Environmental Research Center, turn right at the 3rd drive way, turn left through the chain link fence, our office is at the south end of the parking lot.

Summer 2009 Schedule for collecting, preparing, pinning and identification of specimens

Aug 14 Noon -2:00 Set traps/netting  
Aug 15 10:00 – Noon Pick up traps/netting  
Aug 17 4:30 – 6:30 Wash/dry/pin  
Aug 27 Noon -2:00 Set traps/netting  
Aug 28 10:00 – Noon Pick up traps/netting  
Aug 31 4:30 – 6:30 Wash/dry/pin

Contact: Wedge Watkins, 573-442-2778, or [Wedge.Watkins@fws.gov](mailto:Wedge.Watkins@fws.gov) if you are interested in participating. Although this is a Capstone Project, non-trainees are encouraged to volunteer. Project is approved.

### **Bluebird Trail Monitoring: March through September**

Sponsored by The Columbia Audubon Society. The Columbia Audubon Society is looking for volunteers to help monitor the bluebird trails we have at Wild Haven and Russell Property. Wild Haven, which is located just north of Columbia, has around 20 bluebird houses, and Russell Property, located within Columbia, has 8 bluebird houses. The bluebird houses have to be periodically monitored during the breeding season to get an idea of how successful the houses are. Contact: Vanessa Melton at 573-864-3905 or [vanndawn@hotmail.com](mailto:vanndawn@hotmail.com). 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**

*Sponsored by Raptor Rehabilitation Project*

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.

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

Most opportunities are on the units of the Big Muddy National Fish and Wildlife Refuge; projects are sponsored by Friends of Big Muddy. Friends of Big Muddy helps the refuge with a variety of projects including trail building, putting up boundary signs, trash pickups, educational programs, habitat restoration projects, water quality monitoring, etc. We also have booths at festivals at communities along the Missouri River to talk about the refuge and Friends of Big Muddy activities. We are looking for people to lead interpretive hikes, canoe trips, boat rides, etc. on refuge units (leading these counts as volunteer time, participation does not count).

Most activities are announced on an e-mail group about 10-14 days before they happen. To subscribe to that list, send an e-mail to

[FriendsofBigMuddy-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:FriendsofBigMuddy-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). Activities generally only require the volunteer to provide personal care items (water bottle, sun protection, bug protection, etc.). Exceptions will be noted in e-mail announcements. Volunteers can choose to participate only in the activities that interest them. Contact Steve Johnson at [missouririver@gmail.com](mailto:missouririver@gmail.com). Projects are approved.

### **Outdoor Education at Prairie Fork Conservation Area**

The school year is over, but contact Jody Coats if you are interested in volunteering for other educational programs.

Please contact Jody Coats, Outreach and Education Coordinator, Prairie Fork Conservation Area, 573 356-8898 or [jlc7t4@mizzou.edu](mailto:jlc7t4@mizzou.edu). Project can be renewed for approval by calling Meredith at 573 443-0104.

*“People who never get carried away should be.”  
Malcolm Forbes*

## 2009 Officers

President	Meredith Donaldson <a href="mailto:MJDonaldsn@aol.com">MJDonaldsn@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.com">SuzWright@centurytel.com</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>
State Advisory Committee Rep, 2009-10	Vacant		

## Chapter Co-Advisors

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[Jeff.Koppleman@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Jeff.Koppleman@mdc.mo.gov)

## NEXT MEETING

Thursday, September 10; 6:00pm

*Note the early start time!*

Extension Office

Tony Spicci

GPS Field Training

**Refreshments:** Dessert, Jane Fore; Non-dessert, *volunteer needed*; drinks, Susan Hazelwood

2010 State Conference: St Louis, Fall rather than Spring.



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