

GOAS *Scissortail*

Greater Ozarks Audubon Society Newsletter :: February 2013 :: Volume 36 Issue 2

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

GOAS BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12th

7:00 p.m. Quail Creek Center

GOAS MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21st

7:00 p.m. Program

Springfield Conservation Nature Center

C3ZN040Z

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE

GREATER OZARKS CHAPTER

OF THE

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

Membership in the National Audubon Society includes:

- ◆ Affiliation with Greater Ozarks Audubon
- ◆ Eight issues of the **GOAS Scissortail**
- ◆ Four issues of **Audubon** magazine

- Please enroll me as a member of NAS and Greater Ozarks Audubon.....\$20
- Introductory 2 year Membership.....\$35
- I'm interested in making a bequest; please contact me at the address below

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To join, make your check payable to National Audubon Society and mail with this form to:

National Audubon Society
P. O. Box 422250
Palm Coast, Florida 32142-2250

Please send renewals to National Audubon. Follow instructions provided with notice to renew your membership,

[or renew online on our web page!](#)

Subscribe to the GOAS [Scissortail](#) online, or contact the GOAS Secretary if you want your newsletter mailed.

TWEETS

David Catlin, GOAS Chapter President

In his book *Last Child in the Woods*, author Richard Louv bemoans the fact that children don't grow up spending time in the outdoors like they used to.

One child he interviewed expressed a typical sentiment when he said, "I like to play indoors better 'cause that's where all the electrical outlets are."

The problem with this, Louv says, is not just that it leads to more childhood obesity and a variety of other health-related problems. It also creates a citizenry that is disconnected from the natural world and that, as a result, isn't as invested in protecting it.

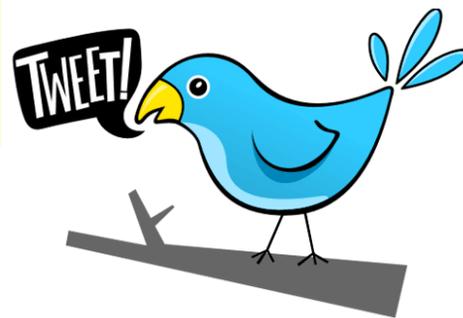
Elaborating on Louv's observation, former National Audubon Society president John Flicker used to express his concern that, "We've lost a generation."

My concern, actually, is that we've lost two generations. It isn't just that kids today don't spend time outdoors. Their parents didn't, either. That means they often don't have the skills or motivation to share nature with their children.

To find a generation in which the majority of its members grew up mucking around in the fields and vacant lots and only coming home when the street lights came on, you have to look at the Baby Boomers.

As it happens, that includes many of you (and me). Many of us are grandparents now. We have a powerful and important opportunity: We can be the people who help connect the current generation of children to the natural world.

Researcher Louise Chawla has ex-



plored the things that professional conservationists have in common, and she found that two experiences appear over and over again in the childhoods of people who now dedicate themselves to conservation and the environment. First, they had opportunities for unstructured play in the outdoors. Second, they connected with a mentor—often a family member—who shared experiences in nature with them.

That could be you! One opportunity comes this month with the "Great Backyard Bird Count," which is the perfect bridge between the world of nature and the world of electrical outlets. Anytime between February 15 and 18 (Friday through Monday of President's Day weekend), simply keep track of the birds you and your favorite child(ren) see for at least 15 minutes. It can be at feeders in a backyard, or at a local park, or anywhere. Then, submit your bird list online at <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc>.

It serves a useful purpose to science, because it when over 100,000 lists get submitted (as was the case last year), the data can be quite meaningful. But perhaps not as meaningful as the impact you can have on someone you love. You can be a nature mentor to a child, and this is the ideal time to start!



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Representing:
 Cedar, Christian, Dallas, Douglas, Greene,
 Hickory, Polk, St. Clair, Stone, Taney,
 Webster, and Wright Counties in Missouri.

Our mission is to promote bird conservation in southwest Missouri through birdwatching, education, habitat preservation and restoration, and public awareness, for the benefit of humanity and wildlife.



You can count birds at your backyard feeder from your easy chair for just 15 minutes one day. Or count all four days with friends or family at as many birding hotspots as you can fit into the long weekend! Get details at birdcount.org, or call Charley Burwick, 417-860-9505.

GREATER OZARKS AUDUBON SPONSORS
 GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT ACTIVITIES
 EACH DAY, FEBRUARY 15-18, 2013

Friday and Saturday
 Springfield Conservation Nature Center
 9:00 -11:00 am

Sunday
 Watershed Center at Valley Water Mill
 1:00-3:00 pm

Monday
 Watershed Center at Valley Water Mill
 9:00-11:00

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**The Greater Ozarks Audubon Society Board of Directors
 Announces the Appointment of a Nominating Committee**

Ruth Grant, Chair
 Myra Scroggs
 Marvin DeJong

The committee is accepting nominations for Vice President, Recording Secretary, and expiring board positions. Elections will be held at the annual membership meeting, at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, April 18, 2013,

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM...

Erica Wilson Lipanovich, DVM, staff veterinarian for five years with the Dickerson Park Zoo, will present the February program, *The Mariana Avifauna Conservation* (MAC) project. She graduated from Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 2004, worked in private practice in Phoenix for two years, and completed her residency at Denver Zoo. She will join the MAC project for a fourth year this April.

The Mariana Avifauna Conservation project was developed in response to the brown tree snake population established on the island of Saipan and the increasing threat of establishment of the species on Rota and Tinian islands. The introduced reptile is a direct threat to the survival of many endemic and rare bird species. Join GOAS to learn about the MAC project and what is in store for Erica when she returns to the South Pacific this spring.

Come at 6:30 pm, Thursday February 21st for refreshments and to socialize. The program will begin at 7:00 pm, followed by the membership meeting at the Springfield Conservation Nature Center, 4601 Nature Center Way (off Business Highway 65).

Dan and Ann Liles, Program Chairs



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