

GOAS *Scissortail*

GREATER OZARKS AUDUBON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER MARCH 2015 VOLUME 38 ISSUE 3

MARCH CALENDAR GOAS BOARD MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 3rd

7:00 p.m. Environmental Resource Center

GOAS MEMBERSHIP MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 19th

7:00 p.m. Program
Springfield Conservation Nature Center

C5ZN040Z

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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CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

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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** on our web page.

Get the **Scissortail** in your inbox!

Contact Mary Sturdevant, GOAS Membership Chair with questions, or Jim Fossard, Secretary, if you want to receive the newsletter by mail.

DR. RUTH REPORTS

Ruth Grant, GOAS Chapter President

Our Community Foundation Partnership

Your board met in January with Julie Leeth and Suzy Grey from the Community Foundation of the Ozarks. We became a partner agency of CFO six years ago when they offered us matching funds to initiate an endowment fund. After research, debate and soul searching the GOAS decided to accept the offer. We raised \$28, 155 and qualified for a \$10,000 match from the Stewardship Ozarks Challenge. Later we received an anonymous donation of another \$10,000 bringing our capital investment to \$48,155.

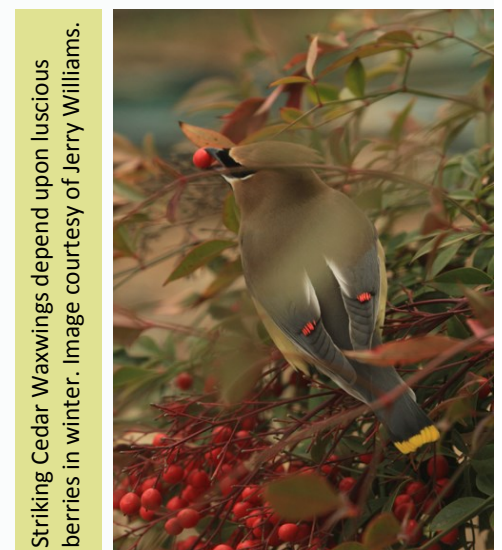
It was a little scary because the capital couldn't be used, only the investment earnings up to a ceiling of 4-5% of capital, is available annually. In addition the endowment was not in a savings account, so not protected by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). But with increased risks came the possibility of increased rewards.

At the same time CFO staff became (and remain) very excited by GLADE. They established a special GLADE fund of \$8000 to help students pay for any expenses associated with their service projects. Later they would award GOAS and GLADE two Coover grants of \$24,250 total to enable us to offer teacher training, which we did in 2012 and 2013. We also participated, without cost at an \$11,000 value, in a Learning Community capacity building

training. The CFO has been as critical a partner to GLADE as was Together Green, donating a total of \$46,000 to our efforts

Since 2009, our endowment fund has grown to \$64,119, of which \$8,000 is available for us to use. So far we haven't withdrawn any of those moneys, preferring to use donations and grants to pay for GLADE as well as our other operating expenses, and to allow the endowment to build.

The great value of the endowment fund is as insurance that we can continue to fund GLADE into the future. If our grants, donations and fundraising ever fall short of our goal, we can fall back on the income from the endowment fund to help us. As it continues to grow under the wise tutelage of CFO's investment advisors, that financial cushion will gradually increase.



Striking Cedar Waxwings depend upon luscious berries in winter. Image courtesy of Jerry Williams.



GREATER OZARKS AUDUBON SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 3231
Springfield, Missouri 65808-3231

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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.

President.....Ruth Grant
ruthgrantmd@gmail.com..... 883-5605

Vice-President.....Ann Liles
amerey11@aol.com..... 522-4844

Secretary.....Jim Fossard
jfossard@pfjmlaw.com..... 883-6829

Treasurer.....Charley Burwick
ozarkbirder@gmail.com..... 860-9505

Board.....Lisa Berger
goshawk@att.net..... 860-9108

Board.....Jan Carter
..... 833-2211

Board.....Kathleen Cowens
kcowens@drury.edu..... 865-7427

Board.....Janice Greene
janicegreene@missouristate.edu... 862-4381

Board.....Jill Hays
mohumbird@yahoo.com..... 840-2485

Board.....Emily Samuel
mobirdnerd@gmail.com..... 767-2241

Board.....Greg Samuel
pls@arczip.com..... 767-2241

Board.....Mary Sturdevant
marysturdevant52@gmail.com..... 830-9298

Board.....Greg Swick
grswick@gmail.com..... 581-2757

Board, past president.....David Catlin
dcatlin754@sbcglobal.net..... 889-9940

FOCUSING on upcoming events



Mark your calendar for a **Pizza Party** Thursday, March 6th at 6:00 p.m. Pizza (including veggie) and drinks will be furnished at this kickoff to plan for our annual Birdathon fund-raiser at the Springfield Conservation Nature Center. Birdathon funds support GLADE and Audubon Adventures.

Packets of helpful sample letters and other documents will be furnished to make your soliciting easy. Groups get together to go out and bird for a day, and have fun. You do not have to be an outstanding birder to participate because the team works together to find as many species as possible. The team raising the most money will win a special weekend at a cabin. Prizes are available to other teams as well. This is a fun competition among friends. Everyone who is considering participating in Birdathon should come for this event.

Jeff Cantrell will present a program, *Introduction to Raptors in Missouri*, at the Springfield Conservation Nature Center Tuesday, March 31, from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. Many members remember Jeff as a young birder with GOAS, who also served on our Board. This is an opportunity, not only to sharpen our raptor skills, but to visit with an old friend. Reservations are made for this program by calling 417-888-4237.



THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM...

Every Year is a Big Year: Birding With a Purpose

Brad Jacobs begins each year as a **Big Year**, planning to beat the Missouri state record. Knowledge of birds' life cycle; each species' habitat, behavior, and migration timing is critical. This guides his birding trip scheduling. "Becoming one with nature and birds is the only way to succeed," says Jacobs.

Join Brad Jacobs, an ornithologist with the Missouri Department of Conservation for 27 years, and GOAS for this fun and enlightening program. His 57 years of birding across several continents has honed his desire, skill, knowledge, and competitive edge into a plan of attack for a Big Year, however, finding the time necessary to meet the challenge is always his major obstacle. Oh, and the birds have to behave, too!

Highlights of Brad's Bio: BS from Cornell; Peace Corps stint in Ecuador, Colombia, and the Galapagos; taught in Arizona on Navajo reservation; MS from MU; authored *Mo Breeding Bird Atlas* and *Birds in Mo*; chairs/serves on many committees/boards coordinating bird conservation projects that link wintering and breeding areas in North and South America.

Come at 6:30 pm, Thursday, March 19th 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).

Ruth Grant, program chair

MARCH CALENDAR