

GOAS Scissortail

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TWEETS

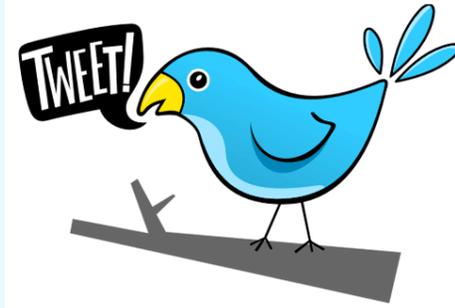
David Catlin, GOAS Chapter President

Against all odds, I can still remember my first contact with Audubon. I participated in a field trip of the Detroit Audubon Society, a short cross-border journey into Canada to experience the spring migration at Point Pelee National Park. It was 47 years ago this month.

I was nine years old at the time, and the trip was made at my urging. My Dad drove, at least one of my brothers came along, and we didn't have time to include a side trip I hoped to make to the Jack Miner Bird Sanctuary. Those are the only details I remember. Oh, and these: I saw the first Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Indigo Bunting, and Scarlet Tanager of my young life. I was blown away.

Fast forward to the present. Now I am on the staff of the National Audubon Society (NAS), and—beginning this month—I take over the reins as President of the Greater Ozarks Audubon Society (which is an independent organization but affiliated with NAS). As the twig is bent, so grows the tree.

For me, Audubon has always been about more than bird-watching. As a child, it was a passport out of the city and into the world of nature. As an adult, it has led me beyond the mere enjoyment of the natural world to a conservation ethic: it isn't just about watching birds, it's about protecting the habitats that support them and the thousands of other organisms that form the living fabric of our world.



I'm happy to say that the people I've met through GOAS believe the same thing. We are a bird-watching group, to be sure—this time of year, we love to get out and see what species the latest warm front has brought us from the south. But we also are committed to the environment, and we demonstrate it by spending money and volunteer time on real conservation. The clean-up and habitat management done along South Creek last month is one example, and next month's Green Leadership Academy for Diverse Ecosystems (GLADE)—a week-long educational session for Ozarks high school students—is another.

It's an honor to be able to take a turn as President of such a group. Departing President Myra Scroggs has set a high bar—she has devoted hundreds of hours and a powerfully focused commitment to GOAS. I'd like to thank her for her leadership, and to recognize all of you for your involvement and support. I'm looking forward to another great trip with Audubon!

Editor's Note: A hearty welcome to Dave, and the new officers and board members. Our chapter is in most capable hands!

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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

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

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. If you have questions, contact Mary Murphy, 863-8475, larmar34@peoplepc.net.

Log on to www.greaterozarksaudubon.org to subscribe to the GOAS newsletter online, or contact the GOAS Secretary if you want your newsletter mailed.

MAY CALENDAR
GOAS BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 10th
7:00 p.m. Quail Creek Center

GOAS MEMBERSHIP MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 19th
7:00 p.m. Program
Springfield Conservation Nature Center



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www.greaterozarksaudubon.org
<http://forums-greaterozarksaudubon.org>
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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.

GOAS website sponsored by
 Consulting Analytical Services.
 GOAS electronic message board
 sponsored by Drew and Tara Albert

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OF NOTE

The GOAS Birdathon is currently in full swing through May 15th. There's still time to make a pledge or donation to your favorite birder or team, or to spend some time birding yourself. Ask friends and family to sponsor you, then hit your favorite hotspot!

Thayer, MO student, Andrew Cancino, received the GOAS Environmental Awareness Award at the annual Ozarks Science Fair. He conducted an Electronic Waste (E-Waste) survey to determine how area residents were handling retired electronics, and found that respondents were hoarding items, awaiting appropriate solutions. Congratulations for a job well done!

Our two spring volunteer day conservation events, Spruce-Up Lake Springfield and South Creek Clean-Up garnered 65 and 18 volunteers respectively. Thanks to all who organized, cooked, came out, pitched in, and made a difference in our community.

Sixteen super applicants have been accepted for GLADE 2011, June 19-25. We again invite volunteers to help ready the Field Station before camp, and to assist during the week with meal preparation, and desserts. Don't forget to keep a log of your volunteer time and mileage. If you haven't seen these young adults in action, plan to be on the scene during the week. It'll be awesome.

The Board nominated Dorothy Thurman for the Gift of Time Award. Good luck Dot!



MAY CALENDAR

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM... TNC'S GWEN SHIRKEY

Journey to Latin America: Conservation Challenges and Opportunities

Gwen Shirkey is the Deputy Director of Conservation Leadership for The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in Latin America. In her role, she is leading a team to build successful fund development for conservation priorities in freshwater, marine, climate and forest, and sustainable harvests across Latin America with U.S. and Latin America leaders. Previous to this role, Gwen led fund development for the Nature Conservancy in Missouri.

She has a masters degree in Public Administration from UMKC and has served as a community leader for over 20 years. Gwen lives in the Kansas Flint Hills where she is building a sustainable cabin with her partner, Brian. She volunteers on two boards, is a certified as a firefighter, and In her free time enjoys throwing pottery, yoga, making wedding cakes and good, local food for others.

Come at 6:30 pm, Thursday May 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).



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Dan and Ann Liles, Program Chairs