



GOAS *Scissortail*

GREATER OZARKS AUDUBON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER :: MAY 2013 :: VOLUME 36 ISSUE 5

MAY CALENDAR

GOAS BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 7th

7:00 p.m. Quail Creek Center

GOAS MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, 16th

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

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, or renew through our web page, <http://www.greaterozarksaudubon.org>

Get the **Scissortail** in your inbox! Subscribe here: <http://www.greaterozarksaudubon.org/publications.html>

Contact the GOAS Secretary if you want your newsletter mailed.

DR. RUTH REPORTS

Ruth Grant, GOAS Chapter President

May finds us with a new suite of officers (see the back page for our names and contact information) and a new suite of birds as the neotropical migrants arrive and set up housekeeping. In my yard the juncos and white throated sparrows depart for the north and the chipping sparrows arrive to nest. I hear their distinctive buzzy trill throughout my neighborhood when I go for a morning walk.

Many of us are listers and are busy ticking off our FOY (first of year) birds for 2013. Occasionally someone around the state goes for a big Missouri year, for which the spring migrants are essential. Others like to go for a big day for which May is one of the best months.

GOAS would like to challenge our members to go for as many big days as possible this spring, by participating in GOAS Birdathon and raising money for our educational projects, including GLADE and Audubon Adventures. Birdathon combines two things we love...seeing lots of birds with friends...with something that terrifies a lot of us...asking those same friends for donations.

But as you know those donations are for an important cause, educating the next generation of conservation leaders. Many of us can remember an aha! moment when we fell in love with birds or something else in the natural world. Most of those aha moments occurred when we were young.

As an organization, we are committed to providing those aha! moments for as many young people as we can. Participation in our field trips and meetings is one avenue, through which we have been for-



tunate to mentor a future leader in National Audubon (David Ringer), a blogger for the ABA (American Birding Association) (Nathan Swick), and a new young board member (Emily Samuel), among others.

GLADE (Green Leadership Academy for Diverse Ecosystems) is another avenue for inspiring young people, by providing a week of intensive immersion in conservation and the Ozarks natural environment. We had more applicants than spaces this year, which is a good problem to have. We'd like to have more income than expenses, so that we could begin to build a reserve for next year.

So get together, build a team, get a Birdathon kit (available from Myra Scroggs) dun your friends, and compete for prizes, which we award at the summer planning meeting!

Don't miss the annual summer planning meeting, Saturday, June 29, 9-noon. The tentative location is Sunshine Valley Farm—watch for confirmation of the meeting place. We'll review our accomplishments, and chart the course for the coming year. All members are welcome to attend. See you there!



GREATER OZARKS AUDUBON SOCIETY
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Springfield, Missouri 65808-3231

Connect with GOAS

<http://www.greaterozarksaudubon.org>

GLADE News

<http://www.greenleadershipacademy.org>

Follow us on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/GOASBirds>

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.

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UPCOMING EVENTS AND NEWS

As you read this newsletter spring migration and Birdathon will be in full swing. Teams of birders wage friendly competitions to see who can raise the most money for programs such as GLADE and Audubon Adventures. When an eager Birdathoner contacts you, please consider giving a generous donation to support our GOAS education programs. Then plan to attend our End of Year Compilation Pot-luck Picnic. The picnic will be Wednesday, May 22, 5:00 pm, at the Lake Springfield Northwood Pavilion, just north and up the hill from the Boat-house. Bring a dish to share and a serving utensil. We will provide the rest, including water and tea. Don't forget your Birdathon Bird List! We will compile all the birds seen by all groups to get a real sense of the diversity of birds in the Ozarks. Everyone is invited, whether you participated in Birdathon or not. This will be our last get together before the summer hiatus. Results of Birdathon will be announced at the summer planning meeting, and great prizes awarded.

Myra Scroggs received Greater Ozarks Audubon's 2013 Choose Environmental Excellence Award for her exemplary efforts toward our mission to promote bird conservation in southwest Missouri. She has served as GOAS president and on the board for over a decade in a variety of positions, has chaired Audubon Adventures, spearheaded recent South Creek work, and has reinvigorated our Birdathon fundraiser. Great work, Myra!

Andrew Kinslow and Greg Swick were recently selected to serve on the NAAEE (North American Association for Environmental Education's) E-STEM Blue Ribbon Panel. Andrew's field research class, and the GLADE project, under Greg's co-direction, both highlight innovative strategies, which transfer STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) standards to students through E (environmental) education: E-STEM.

The 2013 Ozarks Science and Technology Fair awards were presented by GOAS to Madeline Simer, Thayer HS, and Sean Gutowski, Central HS sixth grade program, for research on the effects of acid rain on both soil bacteria and thickness of mollusk shells, respectively. We congratulate them for their efforts and thank judges Dorothy Thurman and Marvin De Jong.

MAY CALENDAR

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM...

GOAS and the Springfield Conservation Nature Center will cosponsor *Birds and Songs*, a special Nature and the Arts presentation, featuring our own Bo Brown. **Registration begins May 1. Call the Nature Center, 888-4237, to reserve your spot right now! This program will fill fast.**

Bo Brown is widely recognized for his talent as a local musician, and a musical artist touring with Blackberry Winter of Winter's Bone fame. In area ornithological and birding circles, he is known for his skills in field biology research, as a bird bander, and through his participation in chapter sponsored activities, such as Christmas Bird Counts and field trips.

He also instructs primitive skills and survival courses, accomplished in shelter construction, hide tanning, flint knapping, and wild edibles ID—a friend you would most like to have near in a long-term power grid collapse.

Bo will weave together a program featuring music, stories, images, and musings about birds, nature and other outdoor pursuits.

Come at 6:30 pm, Thursday May 16th 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