



GOAS *Scissortail*

GREATER OZARKS AUDUBON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER : : NOVEMBER 2014 : : VOLUME 37 ISSUE 8

DR. RUTH REPORTS

Ruth Grant, GOAS Chapter President

What will we do for future generations of birders?

There is a traditional Jewish story about an elderly man in ancient Israel who was planting fig trees. A Roman general chanced upon him and said, "Don't you realize that it will take twenty years for that tree to give fruit and that you will be dead by then?" The old man replied, "When I was a small child I could eat fruit because those who came before me planted trees. Should I not do the same for the next generation?"

As bird lovers and conservationists we reap the fruits of the foresight and efforts of past generations. We benefit from the work of giants like John Muir who helped protect Yosemite, Ulysses Grant who signed the bill protecting Yellowstone, Teddy Roosevelt who set aside fifty bird refuges and protected the Grand Canyon, Rachel Carson who alerted us to the dangers of DDT, Frank Chapman who started



Audubon's Christmas bird count and many, many others.

Unfortunately we also reap the bitter harvest of past failures...failures to stop the slaughter of the Labrador Duck, the Carolina Parakeet, the Passenger Pigeon and failures to protect the habitat of the Ivory Billed Woodpecker and the Dusky Seaside Sparrow.

The greatest environmental threat to birds in our lifetimes appears to be warming of the earth and acidification of the oceans due to the relentless outpouring of carbon dioxide from the burning of fossil fuels around the world.

Will future generations of birders remember us as giants who helped stem the tide of habitat destruction and extinctions? Or as bitter failures who ignored the warnings of our finest scientists, cosseted by a comfortable lifestyle, and blind to its dangers?

Let us be remembered as giants. Let's read the latest Audubon magazine and study Audubon's report on climate change and North American birds on Audubon.org. Sign the pledge to help build a better future for the 314 birds at greatest risk. Read the five steps we can take right now to help birds, and carry them out to the best of our ability.

23rd Annual GOAS Bird Seed Sale

**Southern Hills Shopping Center
2900 East Sunshine
west side of parking lot**

**Saturday November 15
8:30 am to 4:00 pm**

**An order form is included with
this newsletter and
[online](#)**

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

GOAS BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 11th

7:00 p.m. Environmental Resource Center

GOAS MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20th

7:00 p.m. Program

Springfield Conservation Nature Center

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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, 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.

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.

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GOAS BULLETIN BOARD



Emily Samuel captured some great images on the Quivira field trip

Upcoming Events of Interest:

- Springfield and Taney County Christmas Bird Counts will take place in December. The CBC planning meeting will be Thursday, December 4, 7:00 pm at the Springfield Conservation Nature Center. Join the fun of a CBC!
- The [Crystal Bridges](#) Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Arkansas is hosting the *Works of John James Audubon and Artist as Naturalist* exhibit until January 5, 2015. Admission is complementary.

Kay Johnson image



Bluebird Trail Nest Box Report, 2014

Fellows Lake--Jan Carter, compiler
Fledged 105 Eastern Bluebirds
Destroyed 5 House Sparrow nests and a few adults
Raccoons predated 9 nests

Lake Springfield--Sue Schuble, compiler
Fledged 25 Tree Sparrows, 7 House Wrens, 4 Carolina Wrens
5 Carolina Chickadees, and 83 Eastern Bluebirds
Destroyed 21 House Sparrow nests; no House Sparrows before 2013
Predation of 5 nests

Sue stopped monitoring the Chesterfield trail, removing all boxes. Development in that area caused an influx of House Sparrows, which have impacted the Eastern Bluebird population.

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM...GLADE!

Join the class of 2014, as they share the story of their *Week In the Woods*



Come at 6:30 pm, Thursday November 20th 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