



GOAS *Scissortail*

GREATER OZARKS AUDUBON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2016 VOLUME 39 ISSUE 6

ANN'S AERIE

Ann Liles, GOAS Chapter President

I seem to have this irresistible urge to start with "What I did on my Summer Vacation..." I will resist the urge and instead mention some of the things others in our GOAS family did over the Summer. Several members have been at work caring for various Bluebird Trails, a Prothonotary Warbler Trail and conducting Breeding Bird Surveys. Work continues along South Creek. Myra, Sue Schuble, Jan and Jim Carter, and others I might not know about, are hard at work rooting out those invasive plant species. Thank you all on behalf of GOAS and the birds.

Also this Summer we held our regular planning meeting. Roughly 20 members attended. The hot topic for the coming year is preparing to host the ASM Spring Meeting May 5 - 7. Currently, the committees with chairs are Food - Ruth Grant, Field Trips - Greg Samuel, Publications Lisa Berger, and Silent Auction Sheri Hedgpeth. Volunteers will be needed on each of these committees before and during the meeting. Some have already stepped forward and are at work generating ideas. Let one of the chairs or myself know if you would like to help. We will need everyone to get involved to help us make GOAS shine for the rest of the state.

Well with Summer pretty much behind us, it's time to look toward Fall. The Field Trip committee headed by Greg Samuel has put together a great schedule. Check it out and join us in the



field. Our season opener is always fun: The Swifts and Sundaes field trip. If you haven't been before, we meet on Sunshine with lawn chairs, and wait for then watch the chimney swifts come to roost for the night. It's a great time to catch up with other birders and to witness this fascinating bird behavior.

These small birds are a very important part of nature's insect control. However, as chimneys have been capped, and buildings constructed without chimneys, the swifts have lost much of their nesting and roosting sites from which they get their name. Prior to chimneys, these swifts were more dispersed and far less numerous, nesting in tree cavities. Swift Towers can help provide replacements. Jim Fossard has led an effort to have four towers placed at Close Park, which are ready for installation by the parks department. Two more towers are currently being erected at Valley Water Mill Park's Watershed Center. All should be up and ready for next spring's returning Chimney Swifts.

Our Program Chair Ruth Grant, has an exciting slate of programs for this year. Leading off is our own Sue Schuble. I look forward to hear about the birds she encountered on her trip to Cuba. Page two features the program line-up.

Please join us for another great year. I hope to see you at a monthly meeting or field trip very soon.

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

GOAS BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th

7:00 p.m. Environmental Resource Center

GOAS MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th

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

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

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225 Varick Street, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10014
Attention: Chance Mueleck

Please send renewals to National Audubon. Follow instructions provided with notice to renew your membership, or **renew** through 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
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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 NOMINATING COMMITTEE—NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING
September 13, 2015, 7:00 pm, Election of Officers and the Board
Ann Liles, Jill Hays, Nikki Hummel, and Sherri Hedgepeth present the
2016-2017 Slate of Officer and Board Nominees

- Ann Liles** **President**
Janice Greene.....**Vice-President**
Lisa Berger **Secretary**
Charley Burwick **Treasurer**
Jill Hays.....**Board**
Sherri Hedgepeth**Board**
Nikki Hummel**Board**
Greg Samuel.....**Board**
Mary Sturdevant**Board**
Greg Swick**Board**
Brooke Widmar**Board**
Wendy Vit.....**Board**
Ruth Grant **Immediate Past President**

Upcoming Programs for the 2016-2017 Season

- October: Bo Brown**..... **Nature and the Arts: Birds and Song**
November: Greg Swick **Glade Students Take the Stage!**
January: Mark Robbins **His Current Research in Guyana**
February: Mark Glenshaw **The Owls of Forest Park**
March: Marvin De Jong and Jerry Williams: **Birding McGee**
..... **Marsh and North Dakota**
April: Klee Bruce: **ABA Young Birder of the Year, and**
..... **the Community Service Project She Developed**
May: Andrew Kinslow: **Building Students' Scientific**
..... **Literacy, and the Role Birds Play**

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM...

Sue Schuble is back from her latest international trip and will be our September program speaker. This time around, she shares highlights of her birding trip to Cuba, complete with great pictures, amazing stories, and amusing anecdotes.

In December 2015, Sue joined Gary Markowitz and the Caribbean Conservation Trust, which has been travelling to Cuba, conducting research and bird surveys for 14 years. She relates, "I felt like I was thrust back into the 1920s agricultural scene with mostly horse or oxen drawn plows. The well-kept 1950 autos were truly amazing, as were the people and birds! Unfortunately we couldn't spot an Ivory-billed Woodpecker!"

Come at 6:30 pm, Thursday, September 15th 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*