



THE CHAT

*SERVING AUDRAIN, BOONE, COOPER, HOWARD,
MONROE AND RANDOLPH COUNTIES*

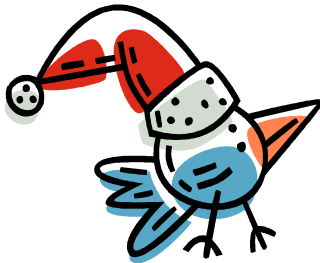
Christmas Bird Count and Chili Dinner Saturday December 19, 2009

The annual Christmas Bird Count and Chili Dinner will take place on Saturday, December 19th in place of the regular monthly meeting. Again CAS is planning to outdo the count from 2008. The total bird count was 38,240 with 98 species represented. A total of 68 in-field participants and 6 feeder watchers rounded out those involved in that year.

Susan Hazelwood and Jim Lang are spear-heading the CBC for 2009. A meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, December 3rd at Susan's home, 3005 Chapel Hill Road, at 7:30 PM to organize the CBC with those who wish to be section leaders. Everyone is welcome to come to the meeting. If you are unable to attend that meeting please call Hazelwood at 573-445-4925 to alert her to your interest. She asks that you leave a message if she does not answer.

If you have previously participated and know which team

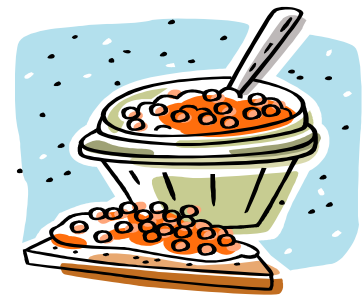
you want to join, let Susan or your section leader know. Otherwise Susan will assign you to a section in need of additional observers and counters.



The Columbia CBC covers a 7.5 mile radius centered on Rock Bird Elementary School. We split into approximately 13 teams. Each team is assigned an area within the circle and each team will bird their area for most of the day.

The compiling session will be lead by Jim Gast following the chili dinner. It is a chance for all to hear about what birds were most common and what species were missed. We'll also learn if there were any unexpected species found. The Christmas Bird Count is about "Citizen Science" at work.

The Chili Dinner will conclude the day with observers and counters sharing the day's birding adventures. The dinner begins at 6:00 pm at the Community of Christ Church located at 1111 Fairview Road in Columbia. The room will open at 5:00 pm for food set-up. A variety of chilies are served along with veggies and dessert. The cost of



the dinner has yet to be determined but it is based on the cost of the beverages, paper products, ice and other items for the event. If you would to volunteer to bring your own 'famous chili' or would like more information please phone Vanessa Melton at 573-864-3905 and leave a message. What a great day you'll have at the CBC!



From the President

Winter officially starts on December 21st but most of us here in Missouri know that snow and cold weather can come much earlier than that, well, maybe not this year. But just because travelling migrants aren't passing through doesn't mean the birding slows down. Winter is the best time to bird for citizen science.

One citizen science project that has already started this year is Project Feeder Watch. This involves watching your feeder(s) two consecutive days of the week reporting the highest count for each species. Keep in mind not much in life is free and there is a small charge to participate in this program – I think around \$15. It runs from November to April and it is a great way to monitor the activity in your own yard.

Another citizen science project is the ever-popular Christmas Bird Count which we all know very well.

As with Project Feeder Watch this event is also not free. Columbia Audubon graciously pays the \$5 fee for all participants, but of course if you would like to pay your own way it would be most appreciated. By the way don't forget the chili supper after the Christmas Bird Count on December 19th of this year.



But wait, what is this? A free citizen science project? Yes, they are out there, and in fact there are quite a few. One such project is the Great Backyard Bird Count that occurs every year in February usually around Valentine's Day weekend. This is virtually the same a Project Feeder Watch but only occurs one weekend out of the year and you are not restricted

to your own feeder(s). You can count birds at city parks, state parks, conservation areas, just about anywhere you want as long as you have permission when monitoring birds on private land.

Check out www.birdsource.org for more information on all these programs. See you all out on December 19th for the Christmas Bird Count!

Submitted by Vanessa Melton,
President



Treasurer's Report

Summary	Month	Year to Date
Income	\$134.47	\$5,250.54
Expense	\$1,454.24	\$6,249.45

October 31, 2009

For additional information, please contact CAS Treasurer Eric Seaman at 573-442-2301 or e-mail

Columbia Audubon Society Board & Chairs 2009-2011

***President** – Vanessa Melton, 573-864-3905

vanndawn@yahoo.com

***Vice President** – Bill Clark, 573-474-4510

***Secretary** – Bonnie Heidy, 573-442-2191

bheidy@earthlink.net

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groovedr@peoplepc.com

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jbesser1@gmail.com

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tropmary@hotmail.com

Trailside Center – Denny Donnell, 573-442-8407

hddonnell@hotmail.com

***Voting Members**

News and Notes

CACHE

The CACHE Wednesday morning trips continue with Bill Clark meeting at Parkade Shopping Center, southwest corner, at 7:30 a.m. until noon.



Volunteer Editor Opening

As of February 1, 2010 CAS is looking for a volunteer to step forward to prepare the monthly newsletter, *The Chat*, and to oversee the mailing of it. The newsletter will also be forwarded to the web site and the email processing. The current editor will provide training on the current publishing and mailing aspects of the job. Please contact Vanessa Melton if you are interested or know someone who might enjoy this type of volunteer activity.



The Chat is now available via e-mail. If you are receiving The Chat by U.S.

Mail and would like to help CAS keep down costs by getting The Chat in e-mail form, please e-mail Edge Wade at edgew@mchsi.com to request the change.



Russell Property Name Change

The Russell family has expressed they would no longer like the name of any property around the future Bonnie View Park to be associated with their family name. This means it is time for us to change the name of the property owned by the Columbia Audubon Society off of Cunningham Road which we now call the Russell Property. So please, send in your suggestions of a new name for the property by December 31st and the board will vote in January of next year on the most suitable name. Send your suggestions for the name to vann-dawn@yahoo.com.

Nature Meeting –REVISED

The meeting originally set for December 3rd at 6:00 pm to discuss the future of the three Nature Areas — Wild Haven, Albert Area, and Russell at the Unitarian Church has been rescheduled for December 17th (same time, same place). Come to give your input on the properties, what you would to see in the future, but remember this is not going to be a discussion of Bonnie View Park. See you there!

Membership to the Columbia Audubon Society and

The National Audubon Society

PO Box 1331 Columbia MO 65205

Vanessa Melton Membership Chair

573-864-3905 vann-dawn@yahoo.com



Columbia Audubon Society Membership and Dues Form

Local dues are voluntary. Your local dues support functions such as *The Chat* and the Christmas Bird Count. Membership is for 12 months beginning with the day you join or renew.

- Student \$10.00 Individual \$15.00 Family \$25.00
 Donor \$50.00 Friend/Business Sponsor \$300.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

- If you would like your name included in the CAS Directory, check here.

Make your check payable to the Columbia Audubon Society (CAS) and mail with this form to CAS PO Box 1331, Columbia MO 65205.

- The Chat delivered via e-mail at _____

National Audubon Society Membership Form

Chapter N007XCH

- New Introductory Rate \$20.00 Renewal \$35.00

Membership includes a year subscription to the *Audubon Magazine*. For renewals, in order to avoid duplication, please complete the form exactly as it is on your *Audubon Magazine* mailing label.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

- If you would like your name included in the CAS Directory, check here.

Make your check payable to the National Audubon Society and mail with this form to CAS PO Box 1331, Columbia MO 65205.

- The Chat delivered via e-mail at _____

Columbia Audubon Society Monthly Field Trip

The CAS monthly field trip is scheduled for December 12 from 7:30 am to the middle of the afternoon. Bill Clark and Edge Wade, Field Trip leaders, indicated that the destination for this month's trip will be based upon the weather, participants in the field trip and a spot that might currently be the best place to view the birds. Reminder that you meet at The Parkade Shopping Center in the south west corner before 7:30 am. Wear appropriate clothing for the weather and bring along all your birding stuff. Contact Bill Clark for additional information at 474-4510.



Participants from the November 2009 field trip to Thomas Hill Lake.

Donna Burnet—Macro Photography

I am a free-lance nature photographer specializing in insect images. I am currently under contract with the Missouri Department of Conservation to produce text and photographs for a new field guide to butterflies and moths of Missouri. I am also a photographer for Animals Animals / Earth Scenes stock photography agency and have had images published by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and the Entomological Society of America, among others. I have had 12 solo photography exhibits in nature centers and other venues since 2005 in addition to numerous exhibits in conjunction with other artists.

I recently opened a studio in downtown Columbia and would like to propose a mutually beneficial arrangement. Between now and Christmas, if any member of Columbia Audubon makes a purchase from my studio or website, I'll make a contribution of 10% of the purchase price. Bring along anything that indicates you are a Columbia Audubon member such as a copy of the newsletter.

I am in Orr Street Studios at 106 Orr Street, just north of D-Sport on Walnut Street. My hours at the studio are irregular, but I will plan to be at the studio between

noon and 3 pm on Friday December 4, Saturday, December 12th, and Friday, December 18th. Please call first in case of inclement weather. If those times are not suitable, call 999-2178 to arrange a visit. Items in the studio include greeting cards, trading cards for kids and framed and unframed prints ranging from \$3.75 to \$120. My website is (<http://donnabrunet.com>) has images and ordering information so anyone can mail an order and check to my PO Box and arrange to pick up any items at the studio when convenient. You can also choose to pay shipping to receive any item other than framed prints by mail.

Donna Burnet

<http://donnabrunet.com>

<http://insectphoto.blogspot.com>

573-999-2178

DONNA BRUNET
macro photography




Orr Street Studios
call 999-2178
to visit

Fan Page on
Facebook
<http://donnabrunet.com>



December 2009 Columbia Audubon Society



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 CACHE	3 CBC Organizational Meeting	4	5 Wild Bird Center Bird Walk
6	7	8	9 CACHE	10	11	12 CAS Field Trip
13	14	15	16 CACHE	17 Nature Meeting		19 Christmas Bird Count & Chili Dinner
20	21 Winter Solstice	22	23 CACHE	24		26
27	28	29	30 CACHE	31		

Columbia Audubon Society

CACHE

Wednesdays, December 2,9,16,23,30
7:30 am til about noon
South side of Parkade Parking Lot
Contact Bill Clark 474-4510

CAS Field Trip

Saturday, December 12 7:30 am
Contact Bill Clark 474-4510

Christmas Bird Count and Chili Dinner

Saturday December 19th —all day!
See article for details



CAS Corporate Sponsors

Songbird Station 573-446-5941/447-3646
2010 Chapel Plaza Court Suite D
Intersection of Forum and Chapel Hill

The Wild Bird Center 573-449-8777
2703 E. Broadway
At Broadway and Hwy 63

Upcoming Events:

Bird Walks: December 5 and 19
leave at 8:00 from The Wild Bird Center

Columbia Audubon Society
PO Box 1331
Columbia MO 65205
Contact: Vanessa Melton 573-864-3905/





THE CHAT
COLUMBIA AUDUBON SOCIETY
PO BOX 1331
COLUMBIA MO 65205

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Christmas Bird Count
and
Chili Dinner
Saturday, December 19 —all day!



We're on the Web
columbia-audubon.missouri.org

Summer Coloring Contest Winner



Lena Leuci is shown with her winning colored picture for CAS' first summer coloring contest. Lena was in the 11-15 age category. She is from Columbia and was awarded a Wild Bird Center Mo-Bi two hopper bird feeder donated by the Wild Bird Center. Songbird Station provided the prize for the first place winner in the age 5-10 group. CAS, again, thanks both corporate sponsors.

Corporate Sponsors

Looking for a place to buy just the perfect holiday gift for a family member, friend or even yourself, you are in luck. Columbia has two bird stores with extensive feed, equipment, books, and a variety of beautiful and one of a kind items priced within your budget. Songbird Station is located at Chapel Hill and Forum and the Wild Bird Center is on Broadway just south of the 63 Hwy. Both stores are open 7 days a week with convenient hours for the busy shopper or the laid-back just a few gifts shopper. Each store has generously provided prizes for the coloring contest, items for the schools, and always willing to do what each can to create a joyous continuation of their love for birding. Remind your friends where to locate just the perfect gift for you!

