



THE CHAT

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

Bob Bartlett Captivating Bird Photography Wednesday, October 14th 7:30 pm

Meeting at the Unitarian-Universalist Church
2615 Shepard Blvd. Columbia

Eagles Bluffs continues to be a draw for birders and nature photographers. Bob Bartlett will provide a photo display of the many birds he has captured on film from that area along with his pictures from his travels to Florida.

Bob will bring a local touch from our own backyard for this meeting. He will include a selection of other photographs he has taken in nature.



You will have time to ask

questions about his photographic techniques and equipment to help you in your own picture taking. Also, please plan to share your experiences at Boone County's own Eagles Bluff.

CAS Board Meeting scheduled for 6:00 pm. Please join the Board as we discuss and make plans for the many projects affecting our beloved natural sites.

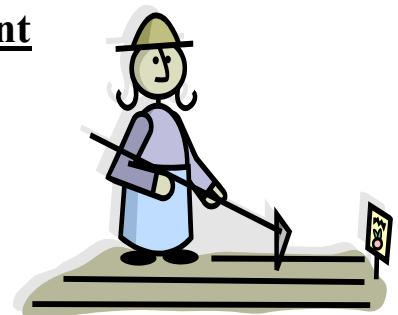
CAS Nature Areas: Maintenance and Development

An ongoing passion with the four nature areas that belong to CAS, John Besser continues his monthly efforts to maintain and develop as necessary each site. Often the scheduled monthly workdays find just a few individuals willing to devote time and effort to the properties. It is time for additional members to roll up their sleeves to bring each site into a hospitable environment for the animals attracted to the area and a place for

each of us to enjoy the beauty and richness of these natural areas.

The Saturday, October 24th at 9:00 am, at Wild Haven will include ongoing trail maintenance and other work to keep the area from over growth and disrepair.

The November work day date has not been chosen as of this date. John's plans to begin work on the nature trail devel



opment at the Russell Area. Many hands and backs are required to maintain each unique location. John can be reached at home: 874-5675; work: 529-6186; or via e-mail at jbesser1@gmail.com.



From the President

Summer has come to an end and I hope you all had a great one! Even though there were no general meetings over the summer board meetings were still held each month to conduct Society business. It was a busy summer for the board beginning with the coloring contest that came to a close in August. It was offered to children age 5-15 and the coloring page was available at Wild Bird Center, Songbird Station, the Columbia Public Library, and on the Columbia Audubon Society website. With 46 pages turned in for judging the contest was considered a success, and even better, since some of the pages came all the way from Washington, Florida, and North Carolina we have proof that the Columbia Audubon Society website is being used by more than its members. We are working on ways to improve the coloring contest for next year and hopefully it will be bigger and better.

Also this summer we had another Columbia Audubon Society property issue come about concerning Russell Property. The Columbia Parks and Recreation Department recently announced they were working on a development plan for Bonnie View Park and are having a meeting on October 7th from 6-8 pm at the ARC to discuss those plans.

The plan options offered by Parks and Recreation have since been rejected by the Columbia City Council, but the meeting will still take place so that a discussion can occur on ideals for the park. At the Columbia Audubon Society September meeting on the 16th many ideas were tossed around about the park itself and for our own property, the Russell Property, which will be adjacent to the Bonnie View Park. The reason why it concerns us is that on all the old (from 2003) and new plans for the park, there is a dotted line going through our property which is labeled 'MKT Fitness Trail' which would connect Bonnie View Park with Dublin Park. From the discussion on September 16th, one thing was clear – we do not wish to have city or MKT trails going through Russell Property and it is the Columbia Audubon Society's wish that Bonnie View Park remain as "green" and natural as possible. Those ideas will be expressed at the October 7th meeting, so stay tuned for more on this subject later.

And speaking of the properties, since the job of Chair of the Nature Areas Committee is such a large task, a decision was made to split the commit-

tee into 3 equal co-chairs – one person to manage each property (Wild Haven, Albert Area, and Russell Property), not including the 4th property owned by Columbia Audubon Society that no one seemed to know about until an individual wanted to purchase it. Don't worry there won't be a meeting to discuss that property, at least not for now..... Anyway, the three co-chairs are John Besser for Wild Haven, Harold Anderson for Albert Area, and Cleo Kottwitz for Russell Property. Welcome Cleo, and welcome back Harold!

Also, Val Germann of the Central Missouri Astronomical Society who has a telescope set up at Wild Haven on the east side of the property has invited us all out to view the stars and planets on October 24th. See article inside for more information. This is a great opportunity to visit Wild Haven if you haven't been out there in a while and to meet some new friends who share an interest in one of our properties to the north. I encourage you all to go out there for the star viewing, and I will see you there!

Vanessa Melton, President

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

Treasurer – Eric Seaman, 573-442-2301

groovedr@peoplepc.com

Board Members

Jean Graebner, 573-698-2855, jeanr@socket.net

David Silvey, 573-698-3337, silveyd@umsystem.edu

Bill Mees, 573-445-7781, jandbmees@mchsi.com

Nature Areas - John Besser, 573-874-5675

jbesser1@gmail.com

Membership – Vanessa Melton, 573-864-3905

vanndawn@yahoo.com

Hospitality – Dolores Clark, 573-474-4510

Field Trips —Bill Clark, 573-445-4510

Edge Wade, 573-445-6697 edgew@mshsi.com

Conservation – Dave Bedan, 573-445-9834

dbedan@mchsi.com

The Chat Editor – Margaret Muegenburg, 573-234-7313

maggiemueg@aol.com

Publicity – Fred Seaman, 573-696-2767

fseaman@centurytel.net

Education – Lisa Schenker, 573-443-4189

Bill Clark, 573-474-4510

Website – Mary Dodds McCarthy, 573-442-0167

tropmary@hotmail.com

Trailside Center – Denny Donnell, 573-442-8407

hddonnell@hotmail.com

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.

Time for Birding Classes Once Again

It is once again time for birding classes to begin at Songbird Station. There will be a beginner birding class taught by Bill Clark and an advanced birding class led by Edge Wade. The classes will run for 6 weeks beginning on October 8th with the dates for the classes being October 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th and November 5th and 12th. The beginning birding class will be in the morning with the first session on October 8th beginning at 9 am. The

advanced birding class will be offered in the afternoon of those days. For more information contact Songbird Station at 573-446-5941.

CAS Monthly Field Trip

A field trip to a mystery spot will be held on Saturday, September 19th. Bill Clark and Edge Wade will again lead the trip to just the right seasonal birding spot. The group leaves promptly at 7:35 am from the Parkade Center Parking lot at the south west corner. The trip extends into the early afternoon with lunch at a restaurant near the area to be explored. Contact Bill Clark at 474-4510 for additional information.

Wild Haven Star Gazing

Val Germann, retired professor from Columbia College, has arranged an evening of star gazing beginning at 7:30 pm at Wild Haven. Large tele-



scopes will be available for you to view Jupiter, the Seven Sisters star cluster and the beautiful Andromeda Galaxy. Park on the north side of the road to gain access to the site. Contact Val at 289-8489 or at vhg49@mchsi.com. Bring the whole family!



CAS Financial Report as of 8/31/09

Summary	Month	Year to Date
Income	\$1,345.45	\$3,101.49*
Expense	\$ 361.89	\$2,739.60

*includes \$1,800 for ASM meeting
Eric Seaman, Treasurer, 442-2301
grooved@peoplepc.com



Membership to the Columbia Audubon Society and

The National Audubon Society

PO Box 1331 Columbia MO 65205

Vanessa Melton Vice-President Membership

573-864-3905 vanndawn@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.

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 _____

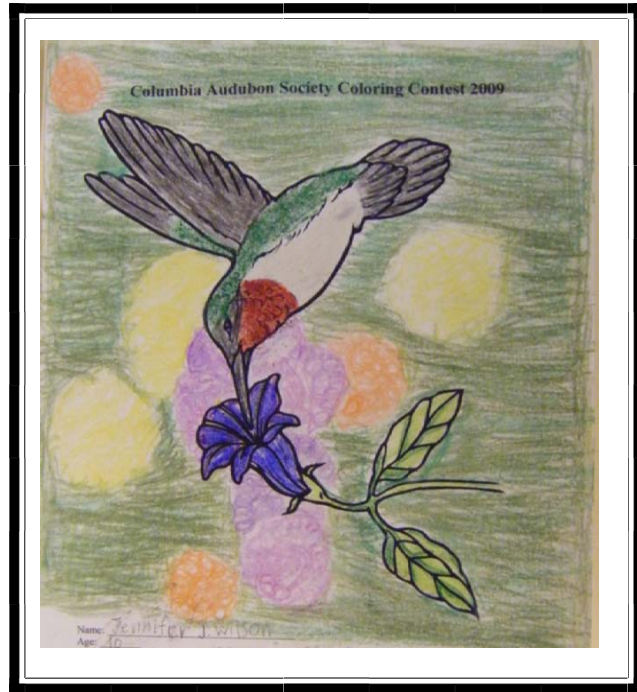
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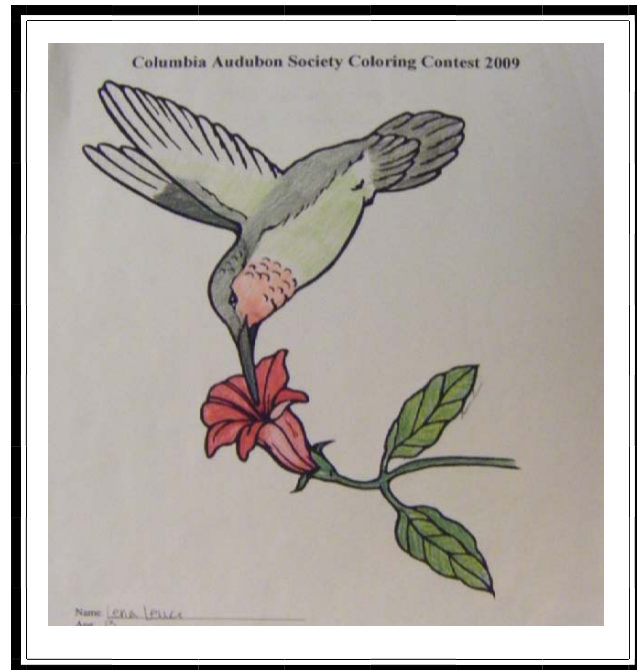
CAS Summer Coloring Contest Results

The Coloring Contest has come to an end and the winners were announced at the Columbia Audubon Society meeting on September 16th. In case you weren't there the winners are Jennifer Wilson of St. Charles, Missouri for the age 5-10 category and Lena Leuci of Columbia, Missouri for the age 11-15 category. Jennifer Wilson won a Birdopoly board game as well as bird flash cards donated by Songbird Station, and Lena Leuci won a Wild Bird Center Mo-Bi two-hopper bird feeder donated by Wild Bird Center. The top 20 coloring pages will be on display at the Columbia Public Library until mid-October for those of you who would like to see some of the wonderful artwork done by local, and some non-local artists. I want to thank Fred Seaman for his hard work in getting the contest information in the Columbia Daily Tribune and the Missourian, Mary McCarthy for getting the coloring page and information about the contest on the website so quickly, Margaret Muegenburg for offering the coloring page in The Chat, and thanks to Bill Clark for announcing the coloring contest on Pepper and Friends. Also, thanks to Songbird Station and Wild Bird Center for donating the wonderful prizes.

Vanessa Melton, President



*Lena Leuci of Columbia
Age 11-15 Category*



*Jennifer Wilson of St. Charles
Age 5-10 Category*



*Samples of other coloring
contest entrants.*



THE CHAT
COLUMBIA AUDUBON SOCIETY
PO BOX 1331
COLUMBIA MO 65205

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CAS October Meeting
October 14th at 7:30 pm



Bob Bartlett
Captivating Bird Photography
CAS Board Meeting at 6:15 pm

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

Address Service Requested

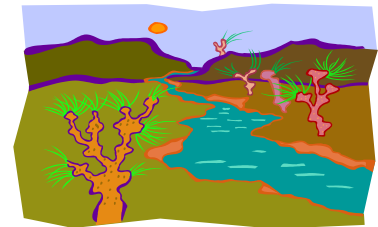
Master Plan –Bonnie View Park and CAS Russell Property

The Parks and Recreation Department (PRD) will host a park planning meeting on **Wednesday, Oct. 7th from 6-8pm at the ARC**. At the Columbia City Council meeting of September 21, 2009, the council voted unanimously not to accept the plans from the PRD. Because none of the options was found acceptable, it means that no PRD generated options for the park use or development will be at the open meeting on Oct. 7th. CAS membership can support our vision at this meeting. The vision is: What is now the underdeveloped portion of Fairview Park, all of the city-owned Bonnie View Park, and CSA's Russell property be considered as one integrated unit for planning with the sole purposes

ation, preservation, and nature education and the enjoyment of nature. A strong showing of CAS members is essential to our commitment to parks with wide-open natural lands. Please call Wade Edge at 445-6697 or Vanessa Melton at 864-3905.

Threat to Rock Bridge Memorial State Park

Columbia Parks and Recreation Department has developed a master plan for the new regional park in Southeast Columbia consisting of 320-acre Gans Creek Reaction Area (Crane property) and the 140-acre A. Perry Phillips Park. The major concern of CAS is the proposed equestrian area and its access to the adjacent Gans Creek Wild area in Rock Bridge Memorial State Park. A large increase in



equestrian use could lead to severe damage to the Wild Area. A similar overuse by horses led to severe damage in Cuivre River State Park near Troy, MO. Heavy use could also impact the Gans Creek itself. To express your opinion on this topic, fill out the short survey found at: <http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/phpQ/fillsurvey.PHP?sid=123>. Deadline for comments if October 1, 2009. Dave Bedan at 445-9834 or dbe-dan@mchsi.com. You can view the plan at http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/PardsandRec/Parks/Crane/documents/se_reg_park_plan_08-2009.pdf. **Let your support of CAS's vision for our parks be known!**