You are invited to join the Greater Ozarks 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:
National Audubon Society
P. O. Box 97194
Washington D.C. 20090-7194
By phone, 1-800-542-2748

Please send renewals to National Audubon. Follow instructions provided with notice to renew your membership, or renew online.

Get the Scissortail in your inbox!
Contact Mary Sturdevant, 830-9298, with questions, or Lisa Berger, 860-9108, to receive the newsletter by USPS mail.

March Calendar
GOAS Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 13th
7:00 p.m. Environmental Resource Center

GOAS Membership Meeting
Thursday, March 15th
7:00 p.m. Program
Springfield Conservation Nature Center

Chats with Janice
Janice Greene, GOAS Chapter President

Signs of spring are showing up at my house. Crocus are blooming in my yard. The surprise lilies are sending up their green shoots. I hear house finches singing periodically. Spring is definitely on its way.

As many birders get the migrant itch in March, I think of the Sandhill Cranes returning to Nebraska. I fell in love with Sandhill Cranes when I worked in Texas where we had some in the winter. But March is the big return of cranes back toward their northern nesting grounds.

It was with a GOAS group that I first went to Nebraska to see the cranes on the Platte River. It was a fast weekend trip, but WOW! It is one of the best memories I have. We had a beautiful, cloud-free weekend and decent temps. We arrived on a Friday and went straight to a boardwalk near the Audubon Rowe Sanctuary. We were one of the first groups there and waited and waited. Then the magic started. Flock after flock of sandhills came in. You heard them before you really saw them.

The sound is a fabulous memory. Thousands of cranes chattering in low light then the sound growing as they get ready to take off. That morning they were lit by the sunrise so we could see their color. We watched another sunset and sunrise of cranes before we journeyed home. Spectacular!

Hank Lentfer, in his book, Faith of Cranes: Finding hope and family in Alaska, describes the scene: “A half million cranes, the world’s largest concentration, gather along an eighty-mile stretch of river known as the Big Bend Reach: A braided, shallow slip of water surrounded by agricultural fields...At night the birds roost wing to wing, crowded into the shallow waters and gravel islands of the river...Never are they quiet. In the dark, the landscape purrs with their collective, chatter, as if the quiet river suddenly found its voice.”

The sound is a fabulous memory. Thousands of cranes chattering in low light then the sound growing as they get ready to take off. This was truly a trip I will never forget.

Spring field trips are starting. Join a trip and join the fun!
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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<th>Position</th>
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<td>President</td>
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<td>Board, past president</td>
<td>Ann Liles</td>
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Spring Migration—the most wonderful time in a birder’s year!
Clockwise from top left: Blackburnian Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Bay-breasted Warbler: Eye candy to entice you outdoors. How many neotropics will you see this spring and summer?

Spring Is Jumping — Join the Fun!
The new Spring/Summer Field Trip Schedule is hot off the press. Check-out the new trips and new twists on favorites.

Birdathon is Coming, and 2018 marks GLADE’s 10th year. Watch for more in the April Newsletter, and mark your calendar to Jump Start your Birdathon/Big Day with GOAS folks at Lake Springfield, May 6.

Klee Bruce, GLADE 2017, was one of three finalists, out of more than 100 nominees for Drury University’s Nonprofit Excellence Awards—Youth Leader of the Year. She was nominated for her Bird Literacy Project that she began the year she placed 2nd in the ABA Youth Birder of the Year contest for 10-13 year olds. Klee received a GLADE grant to expand her literacy curriculum to other Springfield K-5 Schools.

Ashley Hollis, GLADE 2013, is this year’s Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM) Youth Conservationist of the Year. She has served as President of Conservation Leadership Corps, as an intern in the state legislature, and is an Environmental and Political Science major at Missouri University. Ashley is also the 5th GLADE graduate in a row to receive this Award! Congratulations to Klee, Ashley, and all our young adult leaders.

This Month’s Program...
Brad Jacobs, Missouri Department of Conservation’s (MDC) recently retired State Ornithologist, will present International Partnerships Link Migrant Birds by Habitats at our February program.

His image-filled presentation shows amazing birds, highlighting their priority habitats: Beautiful landscapes of Mexico, Central America, and South America, which provide essential food and shelter to many of Missouri’s breeding birds, which spend eight months of the year, far south of Missouri. Advances in understanding migratory bird linkages promotes targeted conservation actions throughout the annual, full life-cycle of Missouri’s migrant birds. Newer bird monitoring techniques used during breeding, migration, and non-breeding seasons aid international partnerships to establish conservation projects at critical locations and bottlenecks where resources and habitats are limited.

Come at 6:30 pm, Thursday, March 15th for refreshments and to socialize. The program begins 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