



From
Our
President

It is almost the end of the first year of my term as Confluence Chapter President. The Chapter members' involvement in so many different projects is so enlightening and notable by many in our support leadership, e.g. MU Extension and MDC. I want to thank all the officers who support the Chapter administrative positions and Chairs of the different committees. These people are the backbone of all our efforts.

I want to also commend all the people who stepped up to fill in spots where the current chairman asked to be relieved of chair duties. No one wants anyone to burn-out from doing a job too long. That is why it is important for others to step up and volunteer to take open

positions. Remember, this isn't my Chapter, or the other officers and Chairs' chapter alone. It is only as good as the sum of its members.

I commend everyone for participation in the many activities. When I had to report to the Extension council about us in the middle of September, we had already accumulated 3000 volunteer hours and counting. Since I was involved in the repair of the greenhouses at the Extension Center, I will state that by the time that this report is released, the greenhouse and potting "shed" is complete and the benches have been made and in place. My hope is that our part of the Extension Center grounds will be utilized in not only growing potted plants, but we will utilize the area and the Extension Center's meeting room to convene seminars on Nature.

Though winter is upon us, there is still much that can happen. One just needs to explore/study the outdoors and see how trees, plants and animals adapt to the winter. Fortunately we don't have to go in a horse and buggy

but modern vehicles with heaters. On one last note, I am always open to suggestions on how to improve the Chapter, be it meetings, opportunities, AT, or even myself. I evaluate after each meeting/event to see if there are better ways to perform the tasks or presentations. I won't necessarily eliminate, but will tweak. I applaud Mary Meinhardt for replacing Carmen Santos as editor. Mary will do an excellent job with Carmen as her mentor. Please sign up for the December 10th 4:00 p.m. Chapter Holiday event at St. John's United Church of Christ in St. Charles.

Stephen Baldwin

2023 MN Certification Pin

American Burying Beetle



Awards and Recognitions

- Kathleen Benckendorf and Nicole Snyder achieved Certification for Master Naturalist in September 2023
- Elaine Browning, Sandy Oldfield, and Pat McCoy achieved Recertification in September 2023
- Jean Harmon and Valerie Geile both achieved 2023 Recertification in October 2023
- Jean Harmon received the Pewter Lifetime Award for 500 volunteer hours in October 2023
- Lloyd Alinder received the Bronze Lifetime Award for 250 volunteer hours in October 2023
- Emily Bower and Christine Evans achieved Certification for Master Naturalist in November 2023
- Gail Gagnon and Valerie Geile achieved 2023 Recertification in November 2023

Congratulations to All!

New Trainees—Members



Julie Harms

Julie has been a Master Gardener since 2018. She volunteered at the Missouri Botanical Gardens until this year. She has lived in St. Charles for five years after moving here from Belleville, IL. She and her husband have been married for 43 years and have five children and seven grandchildren. They often spend time in Fort Morgan, Alabama, and enjoy all the wildlife there.



Michelle Davis

Michelle has been an avid birder for about five years. She moved to St. Louis when she was eight, after living in Oklahoma. She went to college at the University of Missouri-Columbia, majoring in Biology and then got a Master's in Marine Science at the University of South Florida in St. Petersburg. Michelle has been a gymnast judge for 13 years and is also a watercolor artist. She is interested in helping at Wild Bird Rehabilitation and with Bluebird nest monitoring, along with educational activities.

Thank you, Carmen, for being our Guiding Light for all these years.

To Carmen,

“On behalf of myself and all MMN that have a love of plants and wild things, and care about this planet earth, I have made this stepping stone, a token of appreciation. “



From Joann Shew,
delivered in September, 2023



Monarch Madness 2023

After a long pandemic scare, finally the Confluence Chapter once again serves the public in a really big way, This time TV channels reported the event on local Channel 9 - Living St. Louis.5:00 news. Yea! We are community naturalists, conservationists, educators and



WOW, did we shine, as did the plethora of little kids. Thanks to event originators Tom Holt & Bob Lee, the tradition continues with the huuuge help of Nicole Synder, Martha , Aina Ferris, Alberta McGilligan and Joann Key. THANK YOU, GUYS! We (Aina) used social media this year for the first time. Thank you, Aina! Major public



relations efforts, and of course, our human finesse contacting vendors...Thanks Nicole! Helping them set up & break down their tables...Thanks Martha & Joann! Enormous effort was spent contacting conservation groups & associates. Thank you Alberta! These few MMNs made it all happen.

This event does now appear to be our Hallmark community signature...only to be repeated again next year. (fingers crossed no contagious epidemics).An estimated 900 to 1,000 Missourians attended this festival.

The type of turn out was impressive...families with kids, Pollinator buffs, local conservationists, teachers, gardeners, naturalists & regular old fun-loving folks...from far & wide...All engaged & asking questions in a giant outdoor classroom.... learning about everything under the sun....well almost....Exceptthe Sun!....It was mostly cloudy. However, Monarchs prefer

SUNNY skies. And pretty much... the sky was void of butterflies. Nicole said "They didn't get the memo!" Darn...a few kids with nets did catch Monarchs.

There is an art & science to a skilled wrist and the "flipping" of a net. This netting business is not for the faint of heart. No harm is done to the flying critters. But it's tricky. They naturally fly to the top of the net when turned upside down....It's



easier to remove them at the point. Why net a butterfly???

We tag them for science records. We want to know where they came from and where they flourish.

Lastly, and especially, we thank:

- the Missouri Department of Conservation for their efforts of education.
- the Weldon Spring Interpretive Center!
- and the entire Confluence Chapter! Such an excellent job!

Leslie Limberg



Have you heard of In-Situ Conservation? ?

As the scientists and big seed companies of the world market their improved varieties of seed, it is easy for the farmer and home owner to simply purchase next year's seed without doing a lot of crop evaluation and seed improvement on a local level. Unfortunately, much of the seed diversity we once had is diminishing. You might say, "thank goodness for the big Seed Savers of the world ". We have the DoomsDay Vault in Svalbard (<https://time.com/doomsday-vault/>) Norway, that presently contains 1,214,827 "back-up" seeds from around the world, and there's the Seed Saver's Exchange in rural Iowa (<https://seedsavers.org/about/>) that has 20,000 heritage varieties.

An article entitled, "The Seed Guardians of Peru Trying to Save the Potato" (<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20230929-the-seed-guardians-that-are-saving-our-crops>) was recently submitted by Beth Zona for consideration. The article emphasizes the value of In-Situ Conservation, where crops are preserved (and improved) through cultivation in the field. The author, Kelly Oakes, notes that insitu conservation gives the plants "opportunities to adapt to real world conditions" and that gardeners can select "for crops that thrive in certain conditions or can crossbreed varieties the have desirable traits". She states that "the majority of global seed diversity is held by the world's 2.5 billion small holders rather than in gene banks." **Be sure to check out the potato article for more information on preserving diversity of plants for our future.**

A Visit with the McBain Oak—

Take an acorn. A special acorn. It is large, but not uncommon for the species. Find a good place to grow, say a flood plain of a major river. This tree story begins about 1660, when the acorn sprouted and began to grow into a tree. Many years later it became known as the McBain Oak, the largest bur oak in Missouri. The majestic oak stands as a sentinel on the flood plain of the Missouri River, a few miles southwest of Columbia, MO.

Indigenous people would have been around when the tree was young, though the tree was just another young oak for many years. A few Europeans were farther east, exploring along the Mississippi river. The tree was about 100 years old when fur traders Laclede and Choteau founded St. Louis. When the tree was about 150 years old, Lewis and Clark traveled up the Missouri River and may have noticed this large tree rising above other vegetation on the flood plain. Everything the expedition party saw was new, so they may not have been impressed by one tree.

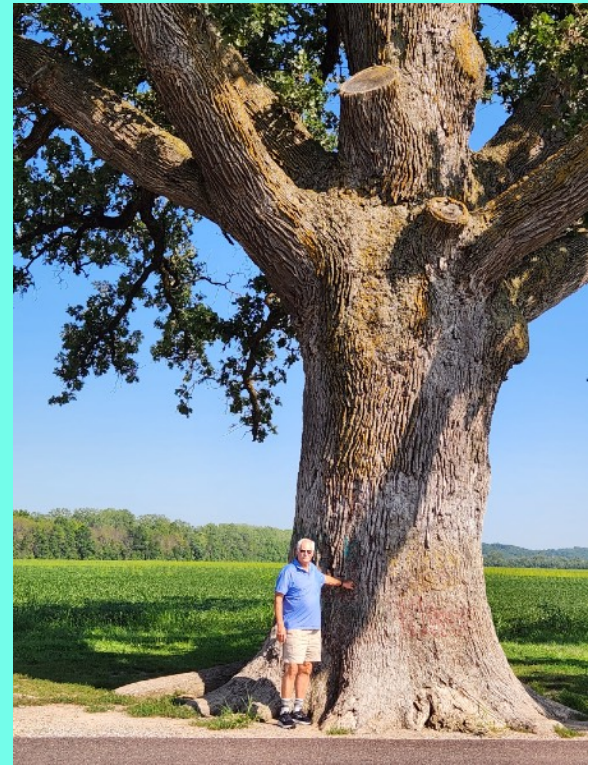
Today the tree is about 90 feet tall, and its branches spread 130 feet wide. It is very impressive. The trunk is massive at 287 inches in circumference. It stands alone beside a road, now named Burr Oak Road. It is a survivor of the flood of 1993, when it was immersed in 6 feet of water. It has its own Facebook page. It has been struck by lightning many times, and caught fire in 2020 during a storm.

The big oak is now in decline. The typical life span of a bur oak is 200 – 300 years. The McBain oak is believed to be 350 – 400 years old.

There is no parking lot or visitor center. No souvenir shop. Just a very big tree alongside the road. That is all there needs to be. Go visit the tree.

Stand back and observe the entire form. Move in close to admire how massive the trunk is. Take a few photos to show your friends. Can a tree really be 400 years old? I think so, but it is hard for me to comprehend.

Frank Dvorak





Tri-Chapter Field Day – 2023

October 7 dawned bright and cool, slightly windy and beautiful in Babler State Park. Participants from the three St. Louis Chapters and some visitors from the Rolla Chapter enjoyed a variety of activities and a plant exchange.

New trainees were encouraged to visit an informational table for each chapter to see what each of us offer as they get ready to choose their chapter membership.

We had two sessions where people could choose their preferred activity. Choices included tree walks, garden design, photography, bird garden

cleanup, nature hikes, a session on ants and rattlesnake research, Bring Conservation Home, and trail maintenance. Our “everybody” lunch was followed by a session on Missouri mussels. The long lunch break gave us a chance to meet and get to know people in the other chapters and participate in a group picture.

The Spring Field day will be April 13, 2024 which is the peak of the Redbud and Dogwood bloom at Babler State Park.



Maintenance Crew



Classroom Presentation about Mussels



Bird Garden Cleanup



Tree Walk with Trainees





From Scott Barnes : The photo to the left shows a Banana Spider. She just took her web down in mid-October and made an egg case. She guarded it until the first frost, but has since died. Her young will live on through the winter



Bee, Butterfly and Flower Photos by Debra Moulton



Take a Ride on the Katy!



Having just passed another of those “age milestones”, I thought of riding my bike one more time across the entire Katy trail. Sooner or later my bicycle would become too old and cantankerous to make the trip.

I used the modern miracle known as Amtrak to get my bike and me to the western part of the state. Amtrak is a miracle in the sense that, if it arrives on time, it’s a miracle. So when I arrived in Lee’s Summit only 20 minutes late, I was pleasantly surprised.

The day was sunny and warm, in the low eighties, a great day for a ride. I had always wanted to ride entirely across the state, not just the Katy trail. I rode the bike 17 miles to State Line Road, literally on the border between Missouri and Kansas, then rode back to spend the night at a Hampton Inn in Lee’s Summit.

Most of the next day’s ride consisted of 46 miles on the Rock Island bike trail. But first I had to ride 18 miles over roads to get to the Rock Island trailhead in a town called Pleasant Hill.

When I got there, I found that the Rock Island trail was in good shape, its condition similar to that of the Katy trail. But there were very few people using the trail on that Friday: I saw a total of 2 cyclists, 3 runners and 3 pedestrians on the 46 miles of trail!

The Rock Island trail is actually very similar to the Katy trail, as far as condition, width and trail composition. One difference from the Katy trail is that, on former railroad bridges over significant streams, the iron superstructure of the bridge above the trail surface is nowhere to be seen on any of the Rock Island bridges. Conversely, the impressive steel I-beams on former railroad bridges are still often present on the Katy trail.

I saw a great many red squirrels, several white tail deer, and lots of circling turkey vultures. The vultures told me that I needed to keep moving!

The Rock Island and Katy trails intersect in Windsor, where I spent the night. The next morning, I went to the Katy trailhead, mile marker 248, There I met a guy who was from St. Charles. He said he would eventually ride the whole trail, but only one section per trip! The Katy’s numerous trailheads are good places to converse with others riding the trail.

At the Pilot Grove trailhead I met a couple with e-bikes doing the same ride that I was that day– Windsor to Boonville. But they could do 20 mph uphill! I’m lucky if I’m doing 12 mph. Also there was an old guy (which means he looked older than I do!) doing the whole trail, and camping – he had an amazing number of panniers and packs slung over his bike! I’m not sure how he managed to get up on the bike and get going without falling over. The bike had to be really heavy!

I spent that night in Boonville. The next day, at first, I saw almost no one on the trail. As I got closer to Rocheport, I started seeing

cyclists. For the day, I saw over 100! There were lots near Rocheport, in particular. I later determined they were blowing up the old I-70 bridge over the Missouri that day. Apparently a lot of people thought a bike on the Katy trail was a good way to watch the spectacle.

This part of the trail also features petroglyphs on the bluffs that were noted by Lewis and Clark in 1804. The trail’s only railway tunnel, built in 1893, is also close by.

I stopped in McBaine to pay my respects to the great Bur Oak, the oldest tree in the state, estimated to be 350 - 400 years old! The tree is located on a road about a half mile off the trail.

At the Hartsburg trailhead, there was a large group of people. One group was riding the trail east to St. Charles. And a couple from North Carolina had started in St. Charles and were going to Clinton at the west end of the trail, then they were riding all the way back to St. Charles!

I got to the North Jefferson trailhead around 2:30. An older couple there were complaining about the rock trail – they wanted asphalt! That would be a lot of money for the 238 miles of trail. Also the character of the trail would be quite a bit different. I spent the night in Jeff City.

The next day, going from Jeff City to Hermann, was largely uneventful. The following morning, I rode out of Hermann and arrived at the McKittrick trailhead around 8 AM. At the Treloar trailhead, I talked to a couple from Atlanta who were riding the whole trail. They were delighted with the unexpected, cool weather. They were looking for a place to stop for the day. I recommended Hermann, my favorite small town.

I got to the Black Walnut trailhead in St Charles County around 4:00. There was a road bike rider there who had previously passed me. Turns out he was on the board of Pedal the Cause. He said he was President, and that he lived in New Town.

I got to the Machens trailhead, mile marker 26.9, for the mandatory end-of-the-Katy picture, then on to Portage Des Sioux, where I completed my ride across the state. Portage Des Sioux is certainly a beautiful spot, probably my favorite of any place I normally ride.

I rode a total of 349 miles to cross from State Line Road on the Kansas border to Portage Des Sioux on the Mississippi, in six days. My average speed over the trip was 11.6 mph. And my old and cantankerous bike had been up to the task after all!

Steve McCarthy



New Missions for the Black Soldier Fly:

- Help Reduce household and agricultural waste
- Serve as food for poultry & fish (protein substitute)
- Reduce methane emission from landfills
- Limit the need for antibiotics in chickens when larvae are fed grape seed pomace

Photo: ARS, USDA



Blue Bird Update for 2023

"The 2023 Bluebird Monitoring season was impressive and productive. Volunteers between our four St. Charles County Parks spent over 400 hours monitoring 61 bluebird boxes, as well as maintaining existing boxes and building new from repurposed wood.

Together we fledged 211 bluebirds, 80 tree swallows, and 13 chickadees. The record bluebird fledges were Broemmelsiek Park with 92 bluebirds and Quail Ridge with 78. All tree swallows were fledged between these two parks, while Spring Bend fledged all of our chickadee counts. And Towne Park is patiently enticing bluebirds to their trail with 10 bluebirds fledged. Collectively, bluebird fledges have doubled over the last two years, as well as having progressively come earlier each spring. Thank you to all of our monitors, box maintainers and builders, and especially to Leslie Limberg, an incredible Naturalist Mentor. Let's hope for a winter our feathered friends can handle and another impressive, productive year."

Amanda Templar



Stream Team #3612 Update

Here are a few photos from our Chapter's Water Quality Stream Monitoring of the Femme Osage creek on Saturday, 10/7/23. These stream monitoring events are led by Gary Wester, & held 3 times a year, weather permitting. It is always fun for us creek lovers! Gary sends out an email at the beginning of the year, for the 3 dates, so make sure that you get the dates on your calendar for 2024 when emailed.



We sampled the Femme Osage at 2 sites, Stubb Rd, by the entrance to The Matson Hill park, & another park, not yet named, farther down Hwy F.

At each of the 2 sites, We identified 3 nettings of macro invertebrates, took velocity & turbidity measurements, temps of air & water, also did chemistry testing for pH, nitrates, conductivity, & dissolved oxygen. Gary did a few upper level chemistry tests, as well. Thanks Gary for a fun day in the creek!

Joanne Keay



Remember to Leave the Leaves for WildLife!

According to Missouri Prairie Foundation: "Even after native plants go dormant, they continue to provide important habitat through the fall and winter. Fallen leaves in native gardens shelter small animals like salamanders, snails, and mother cocoons. Under ground critters like worms, larvae, centipedes and millipedes benefit with added moisture under leaves. Keep dead stems upright. Their hollow & pithy stems act as cavities for native bees. Spent vegetation underneath kept in place holds moisture and with dried wildflower and grasses in place, they all help to feed & protect birds from winter wind & cold".



Rare BumbleBee Sighted in Belleville, Illinois this summer!

A very rare lemon cuckoo bumblebee was spotted this summer in a Belleville garden during the annual Shutterbee Citizen Science Program Survey. This fellow is a kleptoparasitic bumblebee that lays its larvae in the nests of other bumblebees.

Missouri is actually at the southern edge of the bee's range and bumblebees in general are having a difficult time surviving as their habitat heats up. The last time the lemon cuckoo was seen in southern Missouri was in 2008 and it hasn't been reported in the St. Louis region since the late 1800's.

To learn more about the report and see a photo, visit <https://www.aol.com/news/rare-bumblebee-sighting-belleville-sparks-145534658.html> .

Journey of an Elm Tree

Touch the Elm that has passed through time.
Feel the strength, roughness
Sense the silence of its world
Be aware of the history that past as it stood tall and anchored,
hearing creatures great and small.

The Elm has weathered the storms and floods that tried to weaken it
Remaining strong through the floods of the 30's and 90's
Earning the title, *Great American Elm*.
Times of standing tall, as the fields were plowed around its feet
and limbs.....

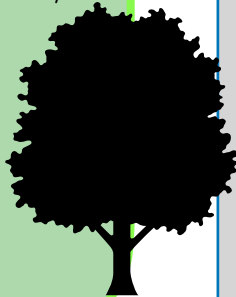
The farmer thankful for the shade as he ate his lunch and
gathered his strength

Through time, trees have fallen, and thickets and brush
surround this one *Great American Elm*,
It has survived the deadly Elm disease that has taken so many
In its tree community.

You are a mystery and god in your kingdom.
I wish you continued strength for what lies ahead,
and hope one day some children's children will stand at your
feet
and wander.....
How can this be, the mystery and life of this *One Great American Elm*?

Jo Ann Shew 9/30/23, Dedicated to the *Great American Elm*
that lives in the Little Creve Coeur Ecological Area, viewed by
members of the MMN Capstone project.

Next Issue: More about the BioBlitz



From this pile of raw materials. . . .
to this image of Mother Nature



at Main Street
Garden,
St. Charles,
Missouri.

From Frank Dvorak



Five-Year Research Project Reveals Copperhead Behavior

by Deborah Moulton

Dr. Ben Jellen has just completed a five-year research project on copperheads at Powder Valley. Little is known about copperhead habitat and behavior in the wild. His study has many new insights into their behavior.

His team was out there every single day for five years to track them. They did surgery at the St. Louis Zoo to implant radio transmitters in adults and a different tracker was glued on to immature copperheads. Ben referred to it as the ultimate alien abduction. They're suddenly in a bag and the next thing they know, they're in the exact same spot with something implanted in them!



The team isolated 2,521 radio locations over the years. Copperheads go in and out of hibernation when there is a confluence of temperature variations from weather and their mini-ecosystems. It literally happens in one week in fall and spring. They always hibernate in the exact same hole year after year, about 3 feet down. These are always "found" holes, they don't make their own, They have difficulty surviving <10 degrees and >100 degrees.

Statistically you have a greater chance of being hit by lightning than being bit by a copperhead. Half of all snakebite deaths in the U.S. are from copperheads. Most bites are in the hand and fingers from

(often drunk) people trying to pick them up. Copperheads have two types of venom evolved from their eating habits: hemotoxic-cardiovascular toxins and neurotoxic-central nervous system toxins. Field treatment for bites is similar, but not the same as traditional tourniquet methods. Instructions include the following: put the binding bandage directly over the bite and wrap up the limb as far as you can. It should slow circulation, but not cut it off. The main thing is to immobilize and elevate the limb (in the case of hand or arm bites) by wrapping the bandaged arm closely to the chest. Get to the ER. You will need anti-venom treatment.

Best practical tip: don't step over logs in leaf litter. Step on top of log and stride off it farther away from the log. Copperheads aren't as aggressive as water snakes and will probably let you go if you're not on top of them. Some logs are like turnpike service stations. Multiple copperheads singly visit and are attracted to a common log. The log operates as a central touchstone, but they don't know why. I think they're leaving messages for each other like hikers at hostels.

I'm glad we were able to book Ben for Tri-Chapter. He wasn't able to do any weekday evenings for regular Advanced Training. About 15 MNs attended.



Whooo knows about these "birds of a feather"???



Look closely for the black swallowtail caterpillars from Sue Stevens' backyard.

Michelle Davis Painting of a White Throated Sparrow



Projects We Support

Our Real Bird Lovers!



Saturday evening, November 4th was the Wild Bird Rehabilitation annual fundraiser featuring a silent auction, raffle & trivia contest. Our members Debra & Jane attended on behalf of the Confluence Chapter. For years Confluence members have donated bird food and volunteer snacks, as well as donated time answering phone calls. The Rehab answers phone calls 24/7 and is open daily from 7 AM to 7 PM. There's also jobs for regular "transporters."

Believe it or not, this bird rehab (primarily songbirds) is the only one this side of Texas.

They are marvelous stewards of birds in trouble, fielding phone calls from all over the STL area and the Midwest. And efficient they are with a training & education program for new volunteers (Want to feed a baby bird?) With a professional avian veterinarian on staff and 4 other full time caretakers, this is a rare opportunity. And with a Carol House sponsorship, they pay the bills along with local donations. IF.... you'd like to check out volunteering with these empathetic avian folks, contact our members, Debra or Jane for more detail or call Denise at 314-283-2328. The Wild Bird rehab is located just on the north side of Hwy 364 where it ends at Page Ave. in Overland. Phone: 314-283-2328 Address: 9624 Midland Blvd. 63114. Open to the public from 9-5 daily.

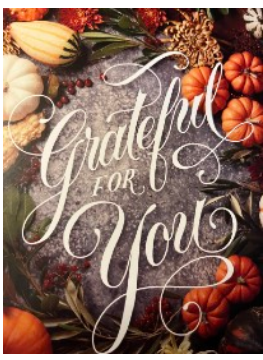
Wild Bird Rehabilitation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, tax-exempt organization. Their mission is to give the best possible care to injured, sick and orphaned wild birds so that they may be returned to their natural habitat. WBR is the only organization in the St. Louis area that cares for songbirds (not raptors).

Missouri Prairie Foundation & Gala



Leslie Limberg, Frank Dvorak, Ann Early, Bob Seimer and Mary Meinhardt attended the annual Member Appreciation Dinner on August 19, 2023. What began as an old volunteer group in 1966 has become an organization that owns/manages more than 4,300 acres. MPF continues to advocate for state-wide prairie protection and provides amazing instructional webinars and printed materials for free if you are a member. Visit them at moprairie.org. Volunteer opportunities include: prescribed burns, seed collection, fundraising, tabling at events and education. Membership costs vary, beginning with \$20 for students and \$35 for a regular yearly subscription.





- Tom Holt—for your continued sage leadership since 2005, coordinating large events and professional outreach. undaunted!
- Nicole Snyder—for your courageous and ruthless ability to say yes, get the job done and follow up with a professional flair
- Thank you and Congratulations, Mary Meinhardt, for an awesome first

newsletter! Carmen’s tradition of excellence is in good hands and will carry forward.

- Thank you to everyone that planned, promoted, and participated in managing and working the very successful “Monarch Madness” event! It was spectacular!
- Jane Porter—for being a true native plant mother. . tending baby native plants all Fall and Winter of 2023 in spite of high winds, cold temperatures and frozen water in our new mini greenhouse.
- Lloyd Alinder—who built and rescued our green house at the Extension grounds with Paul Robbins and Gary Schneider; and who also built 13 bluebird houses, and who shows determined loyalty and professional

skill devoted to the cause of nature stewardship.

- Carmen Santos—who since 2008 has maintained a true blue commitment to the mission of the Missouri Master Naturalists as our newsletter editor in chief.
- Alison Robbins—a stellar volunteer, a very smart coordinator with good common sense and down to earth skills. Thank you for again planning our annual Holiday Party. It is such a great way to close out our chapter year with good food, fun and fellowship!

Thank You!

Our Leadership

- President—Stephen Baldwin
- Vice President—Martha Hessler
- Secretary—Emily Brower
- Treasurer—Beth Zona
- Advanced Training—Deborah Moulton
- Volunteer Coordinator— Alberta McGilligan
- Membership Services—Kathleen Benckendorf
- Chapter Librarian—Amanda Templar
- Facebook Page—Gail Gagnon
- Newsletter—Mary Meinhardt, Leslie Limberg, Elaine Browning,
- Advisors:

Rebecca O’Hearn, MDC,
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Matt Herring,
 University of Missouri Extension,
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Eli Isele
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Project Leaders:

- Confluence Chapter Stream Team #3612—Gary Wester
- Babler State Park—Alberta McGilligan
- Quail Ridge Prairie Demo and Rain Garden—Leslie Limberg
- Bluebird Monitoring—Connie Campbell and Amanda Templar
- Nature Explore Classroom Education—Connie Campbell
- O’Fallon Public Works Project— Frank Dvorak
- Monarchs & Pollinators Network— Bob Lee and Tom Holt
- Birding Club—Gail Gagnon
- Main Street Garden Martha Hessler and Tom Nagle
- Cuiivre River and Don Robinson State Park—Bob Coffing
- Outdoor Classroom, Frontier Middle School—Jeanice and Jerry Kaiser
- Amphibian Monitoring —Steve Teson
- Native See Collection & Distribution Phil Rahn and Leslie Limberg

- Native Flower Potting & Distribution Alberta McGilligan
- Rockwoods Reservation Native Garden —-Karin Foster and Nancy Newcomer
- Belleview Farms—Alberta McGilligan
- Progress South Middle School Gardens Clean Up —Leslie Limberg
- Native Habitat Garden at University Extension at St. Peters—Leslie Limberg
- Past Presidents
 - Connie McCormack
 - Scott Barnes
 - Jerry Linquest
 - Cliff Parmer
 - Leslie Limberg
 - Alberta McGilligan
 - Martha Hessler
 - Alison Robbins

The Confluence Chapter was founded in 2005 as the fifth Master Naturalist chapter in Missouri.

The chapter was formed by twenty-four individuals from St. Charles County, St. Louis County, and St. Louis City after completing the Missouri Master Naturalist™ training program. We share a common interest in nature and in volunteering to help protect, preserve and restore Missouri’s natural heritage. Most of our members live in the region west of the Missouri-Mississippi Confluence and from both north and south of the Missouri River.

We operate according to the bylaws and operating handbook of the Missouri Master Naturalist Program developed by the Missouri Department of Conservation and University of Missouri Extension. Visit us at <http://www.mmnconfluence.org>