

# TALE FEATHERS

St. Louis Audubon Society, P.O. Box 220227, St. Louis, MO 63122-0227  
www.stlouisaudubon.org director@stlouisaudubon.org (314) 599-7390

## Calendar

### BEGINNER BIRD WALK FIELD TRIPS

FOREST PARK VISITOR CENTER  
FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 8:30 A.M.  
Special walk just for the new and/or casual watchers.  
[www.stlouisaudubon.org](http://www.stlouisaudubon.org) or (314) 367-7275

### BIRDING FIELD TRIP—PAGE 3

RIVERLANDS MBS & COLUMBIA BOTTOMS CA  
SATURDAY FEB 7<sup>TH</sup> AT 8A  
All-day with Eagles, Gulls, Ducks, & Swans

### BACKYARD BIRD FESTIVAL—PAGE 6

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN  
SATURDAY FEB 7<sup>TH</sup> FROM 7:30A TO 2P  
Classes, ID tips, exhibits and guided walks for all skill levels. Registration required. Call (314) 577-9506. Fee.

### FEBRUARY PROGRAM—PAGE 5

CREVE COEUR COMMUNITY CENTER  
TUESDAY FEB 17<sup>TH</sup> AT 7 P.M.  
*March of the Penguins*, the Movie, plus Q&A w / St. Louis Zoo Keeper, Rick Smith.

### GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT—PAGE 6

YOUR HOUSE, A PARK, ANYWHERE  
FRI-MON FEB 13<sup>TH</sup>-16<sup>TH</sup>, ANYTIME  
Citizen science project with Audubon and the Cornell Lab

### BIRDING FIELD TRIP—PAGE 3

BALDWIN LAKE AND PEABODY COAL PLANT IN ILLINOIS  
SATURDAY FEB 21<sup>ST</sup> AT 1P  
HALF-DAY WITH WATERFOWL & HOPEFULLY SHORT-EARED OWLS  
SEE OUR WEBSITE OR CALL PAT AT (314) 359-9364

### BIRDS, BEASTS & BUTTERFLIES OF BRAZIL—PAGE 3

POWDER VALLEY NATURE CENTER  
TUESDAY FEB 24<sup>TH</sup> AT 7P  
TORREY BERGER PRESENTS HIS RECENT TRIP W/ THE ST. LOUIS ZOO TO THE AMAZON, THE PANTANAL AND IGUASSU FALLS.  
SEE OUR WEBSITE OR CALL TORREY AT (314) 220-5269

### MARCH PROGRAM—PAGE 5

CREVE COEUR COMMUNITY CENTER  
THURSDAY MAR 26<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:30 P.M.  
*HOW TO BIRD BY EAR* BY BOB BAILEY  
JOINT PROGRAM WITH THE SIERRA CLUB

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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## *Not Here Yet Lesser Goldfinch*

An occasional column by Bill Rowe

**Author's Note:** Over the past decade, since the second edition of *Birds of the St. Louis Area* came out, quite a few new species have been added to our area list, whether on the Missouri side or on the Illinois side. These newcomers add up to at least eighteen species, including some that were totally new, a few that were previously considered hypothetical for our area, and three that had occurred back in the nineteenth century but not since then. These new St. Louis area birds range from Smew to Swallow-tailed Kite to Ancient Murrelet to Inca Dove to Townsend's Solitaire—some expected and hoped-for, some a total surprise. Yet there are still many North American species that are somewhat expectable, or at least imaginable, but have not shown up here yet. This column, *Not Here Yet*, will appear occasionally in order to highlight a few of these species, with encouragement to keep your eyes open for them.

**Lesser Goldfinch (*Carduelis psaltria*)** occupies weed-field, desert, and riparian habitats across a broad range west of the Great Plains, and east to central and southern Texas. It wanders occasionally to the Midwest and has appeared twice in Missouri, once in April and once in May; this makes it an "accidental,"

Please see *Goldfinch* on page 4

## Board Meetings

Open to All. 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of Every Month at 7 pm. Powder Valley Nature Center at 11715 Cragwold.

Board recruitment is an ongoing process and requires your interest and our need. If you have thought of serving in such a way, stop by or call one of us.

## Officers

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## Newsletter

*TaleFeathers* is published monthly. For submissions, comments or corrections, contact Mitch Leachman as noted above.

## Creve Coeur Lake Memorial Park

By Karen Meyer

First of Two Articles

Creve Coeur Lake Memorial Park, established in 1945, is today both the largest and the most used St. Louis County Park with close to 2,000 acres and an estimated 2 million visitors a year. The lake itself and the wetlands south of Page were formerly connected to the Missouri River. Any mostly flat, unchanneled river can carve new channels and leave behind what is called an "oxbow lake." Long prior to levee construction, the Missouri River did just that and left Creve Coeur Lake as one of only two natural lakes in Missouri.

A lake so near St. Louis was very attractive. So, in the 1800's two major railroad spurs were built to Creve Coeur Lake, and in 1899 a streetcar line began servicing what is now the Upper Park area. This line brought many St. Louis area visitors to the amusement and resort facilities that began prospering at the lake. A brick building that had been a power station for the streetcars still stands in the upper park. Around this same period, the Creve Coeur Lake Ice Company sold blocks of ice year-round that were harvested from the lake during winter. However, the 1920's saw a new element begin to use the Lake, and by the end of the Prohibition Era only gangsters occupied the lake properties.

The 1904 World's Fair rowing events were held at Creve Coeur Lake, and the St. Louis Rowing Club has used the lake for many years. They currently operate from a structure near Sailboat Cove, completed in 2004 with help from Washington University and the Park. When the flood of 1993 destroyed or damaged many of the park structures, they were rebuilt differently to withstand most flooding.

Please see *Creve Coeur* on page 7



Mike Grant  
Photo

## President's Message

By Dave Rogles

Recently, I spent the day working with St. Louis Audubon volunteers at the annual Eagle Days Event at the Chain of Rocks Bridge. What fun! It is inspiring to see the enthusiasm and knowledge of the public and their interest in birds, especially eagles. The volunteers were joined by a young man (10–12 years old), who took possession of one of the exhibits and quizzed visitors all day long. I watched him work the crowd and envied his long future enjoying nature and birds. Many youngsters were in attendance, brought by their parents (or dragging their parents), and several of them had advanced knowledge of bird identification and biology. A couple of parents asked if we have a junior program; the answer is yes, thanks to Vicki Flier, our Vice President of Education. To join as a Junior Member, contact Vicki at (314) 968–9166. For more info, visit our website at <http://www.stlouisaudubon.org/JrMembership.htm>.

It is in the context of this event that I thought about a couple of things I found on the Internet: 37 % of all life on the planet is at risk of extermination (1 of 3 plants and animals and birds) and our own Washington University partnered with Stanford to publish a dire prediction of the human race in the near future: widespread starvation and disease due, in part, to environmental degradation. In the excitement of Eagle Days it is easy to forget that we are in a battle for the future of the planet. From time to time people ask me, "Why bother? We are all dead in the long run, anyway." The answer is not a debate about philosophy or theology or aesthetics, it is simply, "Because I will it." We must take possession of the desire to preserve the planet, and we must force the issue on others because we are right. That is reason enough!

Finally, thanks to all those "behind the scenes" folks that keep things running smooth like John Solodar, Susan Krupa, Anne Horton, and Mary Dueren to name just a few. ♦

## Field Trips, Etc.

**February 7<sup>th</sup> at Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary and Columbia Bottom CA:** Bill Rowe will lead this full-day trip. Meet at 8 a.m. (note early time) at the Teal Pond lot at Riverlands reached via Hwy 367 north from I-270. Turn right on last road before the Alton Bridge—at the Fiska Gas Station. Turn right on the first road after the station to the Teal Pond lot.

**February 21<sup>st</sup> at Baldwin Lake in Illinois:** Torrey Berger will lead this afternoon trip in search of short-eared owls and waterfowl. To carpool, meet at noon at the commuter lot at I-270 and Hwy 30. To drive, take I-255 to Hwy 3 in Illinois. Follow to Redbud then take Hwy 154 to Baldwin. Follow signs to Lake Baldwin. Meet in the parking lot inside the gate at 1 p.m.

All field trips are FREE. Reservations not required. Contact Pat Lueders with questions at (314) 359–9364.

**February 24<sup>th</sup> Birds, Beast and Butterflies of Brazil:** Torrey Berger will show photos of his recent trip with the St. Louis Zoo to the Amazon, the Pantanal and Iguazú Falls. The program will concentrate on wildlife with particular emphasis on the magnificent butterflies of the Iguassu area. FREE. Powder Valley Nature Center at 7 p.m. More info contact Torrey at (314) 220–5269.



Source: [pdphoto.org](http://pdphoto.org) Licensed under a [Creative Commons License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)

*Goldfinch* from page 1

which the Missouri Bird Records Committee defines as a species that has occurred no more than four times. It is similarly accidental in several of our neighboring states like Arkansas, Iowa, and Kentucky, although there is no record for Illinois according to that state's official checklist.

**When and where:** While Missouri's two records came in the spring, the species could just as easily occur in the fall or winter, or possibly even in the summer following some stressful event (such as fire) on the breeding grounds. There are two most-likely (or perhaps I should say "least-unlikely") scenarios for finding a Lesser Goldfinch: (1) Watch your feeders carefully. Both of the Missouri birds were observed at feeders, as were the Arkansas and Kentucky birds. It's a safe assumption that niger seed will attract them just as it does other *Carduelis* species:

American Goldfinches, Pine Siskins, and (when we're really lucky) Common Redpolls. (2) Keep an eye on all the American Goldfinches you find out in the countryside. If a Lesser were around, it might well tag along with a flock of Americans and might be found feeding in the same weed fields or sunflower patches.

**Identification:** Lesser Goldfinch is tiny, averaging half an inch smaller than American and hardly larger than a kinglet. In a flock at reasonably close range, this size difference should be apparent. Adult males, which seem to account for most of the records of vagrants, come in two color morphs, both strikingly different from Americans. They are entirely bright yellow below and either (1) solid black above, or (2) black on the crown and greenish on the back. (Black-backed birds tend to occupy the breeding range from Colorado to Texas, i.e., closer to us.) They have thin wingbars, and centered below the lower wingbar is a bold little white patch, right at the base of the primaries, much like the white patch on the wing of a Black-throated Blue Warbler. On males, this patch is prominent both at rest and in flight.

Females are more subtly colored, without the black areas, but are still distinct from Americans in several ways: their upperparts have an overall greenish tinge (unlike the brownish or gray-brown of female Americans); their underparts are usually all yellow right down to the undertail coverts (where Americans are white); and they have at least a slight indication of the little white primary patch (which Americans always lack) on the folded wing below the lower wingbar. In addition, their rumps are rather dark, concolor with the rest of the upperparts, while Americans have the rump paler than the back. All Lessers have dark bills, a distinction which helps in the summer when Americans have pink bills, but which may not help in the winter when the bills of Americans may turn dark.

Also potentially useful is a difference in the undertail pattern: American has a black tail base with large white areas reaching to the tip (but edged with black on either side), while Lesser has a broad black tip with large white areas reaching to the base. In most field guides, this distinction is not shown at all; even in Sibley it is only hinted at, in the flight pictures. The one guide that illustrates it fully is *All the Birds of North America*, published by the American Bird Conservancy.

Voice is another good clue. Western birders are familiar with the Lesser's thin, high-pitched, mewling flight call, something like tee-ye, inflected up, or tee-yew, inflected down. Amid a calling flock of Americans, this note might be your first hint.

"Black-backed" Lesser Goldfinch (all wet)



Stuart Healy Photo

## How to “Bird by Ear”

Thursday, March 26, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.  
Creve Coeur Community Center

Whether you want to expand upon your birding skills, naturalist skills, or creatively looking for ways to make use of your musically-inclined ears in an outdoorsy way, “Birding by Ear” will connect you to hidden rewards. Bird songs beautify our outdoor urban environment, especially during spring and summer. Being able to recognize individual birdsongs joins us to the songster – sometimes visually and sometimes only with a song. Either way, familiarity with birdsongs expands our intimacy with nature. This workshop will provide you with practical guidance to help you recognize and recall individual birdsongs.

Bob Bailey earned has B.A. in Philosophy and M.Ed. in Education and is currently completing his requirements as a Missouri Master Naturalist. Bob has provided educational programs and birding field trips for St. Louis Audubon, Webster Groves Nature Study Society, and the Missouri Botanical Garden. Bob also provides field education for the urban naturalist of which learning to recognize all of nature's songs (from insects to toads) is a major component.

This is our annual joint meeting with the Eastern Missouri Group of the Sierra Club. From I-270 and Ladue, go east on Ladue, left at the light at New Ballas, go ¼ mile north to the Creve Coeur Government Center at 300 N. New Ballas. Community Center is in the northwest corner of the lower level (closest to Olive and Ballas). Questions, call Mitch Leachman at (314)-599-7390. ♦



Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 25. Festival runs from 10a to 4p at Riverlands MBS in Alton, IL. More details in upcoming newsletters!

## March of the Penguins Movie and Discussion

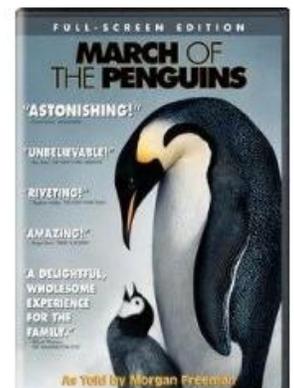
Tuesday, February 17, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.  
Creve Coeur Community Center

Please join us as we show this National Geographic, Academy Award-winning documentary. Morgan Freeman narrates the amazing story of how thousands of Emperor Penguins walk 70 miles into Antarctica to breed their young every year. This 80 minute movie is free to all and will be followed by a few comments and a Q&A session with Rick Smith, St. Louis Zoo Keeper in the Penguin/Puffin House.

The Emperor Penguin, at nearly 4 feet and over 70 pounds, is the largest of the world's penguin species. It is also the most ice-adapted—making it especially vulnerable to the effects of global warming. One colony is estimated to have declined by 70 percent in the last 40 years. On Dec 18, the Department of the Interior declined to list the Emperor as a threatened species while it proposed listing for seven other penguin species less-dependent on the South Polar ice cap.

Rick Smith has over 20 years of experience working with penguins, puffins and other bird species. He has published several papers and spent four summers with National Audubon's Project Puffin. Most recently, Rick supported the Center for Conservation of the Humboldt Penguin in Punta San Juan, Peru.

This is our annual joint meeting with the Webster Groves Nature Study Society. From I-270 and Ladue, go east on Ladue, left at the light at New Ballas, go ¼ mile north to the Creve Coeur Government Center at 300 N. New Ballas. Community Center is in the northwest corner of the lower level (closest to Olive and Ballas). Questions, call Mitch Leachman at (314)-599-7390. ♦



## Eagle Days was Awesome!

By Bill Salsgiver

“Good fun had by all,” does not begin to cover this year’s Eagle Days at the Chain of Rocks Bridge! With nearly 5,000 estimated to have attended over the 2-day weekend of Jan 17–18, our display tables in the warming tent were nearly always crowded (see the proof in pictures). With over 30 real bird skins on-hand—from hummingbirds to hawks to cardinals—it can be hard for kids, and adults, to move along. The eagles were out in-force with a Sunday high of 68 birds reported. Also, visitors on the same day were treated to unobstructed views of one of the Peregrine Falcons that frequents the area.

Thanks to Dick Turner at MDC and Kathi Weilbacher at Trailnet for inviting us; Bill Salsgiver and Dave Tylka for coordinating the Audubon support; all the Audubon volunteers including Jerry Castillon, Shawn Clubb, Chris Ferree, Sue Gustafson, Mitch Leachman, Pat Lueders, Karen Meyer, Anne Rankin, Dave Rogles and Jim Wilson; and Meramec Community College for some of the skins. Finally, special thanks to Quentin Gibbons, 9 year old son of Sean Gibbons. Quentin started Sunday morning by walking out to the tent with us (hot chocolate in hand) and helping us set out the birds. After being trained on our “bird feet quiz” by Shawn and Bill, Quentin decided he could teach it to other kids—which he did throughout the day! So, here’s to future educator and “bird man” Quentin Gibbons!! ♦

*Photos Courtesy of Kathi Weilbacher, Trailnet*



*Curious Kids—A Hummingbird in the Hand, for Real!*



*SLAS in Action—Sue Gustafson, Jim Wilson and Karen Meyer (in back)*

## Great Backyard Bird Count

Bird fans are invited to join tens of thousands of everyday bird watchers for the 12th annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC), February 13–16, 2009.

A joint project of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society, this event is an opportunity for families, students, and people of all ages to make an important contribution to conservation. Participants count birds and report their sightings online. No experience is required. To participate, simply click on <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/howto.html> and follow the steps. ♦

## Backyard Bird Festival

Saturday, Feb 7<sup>th</sup> at the Missouri Botanical Garden

Bundle up and bring your binoculars for a bird-watching bonanza! Adults and children of all ages can brush up on their birding skills with guided walks, identification tips, live exhibits, and informative classes for beginners to advanced birders. This is a great way to get a jumpstart on the Great Backyard Bird Count. Birding walks led by St. Louis Audubon. 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$18 per person; \$15 Garden members. Pre-registration required; (314) 577-9506 or [www.mobot.org/education](http://www.mobot.org/education). ♦

## Call for Nominations

By Lynne Breakstone

Each year St. Louis Audubon awards excellence in several different areas, and **you** are invited to submit nominations in these categories.

### **St. Louis Audubon High School Student Scholarships**

Recognizes those high school juniors or seniors who have demonstrated ability, leadership or accomplishment in any phase of conservation and who will use the funds from this scholarship to study wildlife conservation or related fields in college.

### **Outstanding Natural Resource Legislator**

Honors an individual who has made a significant difference in the actions of government at the local, state, or national level impacting the conservation of birds, other wildlife, and their habitats.

### **St. Louis Audubon Education Award**

Honors an individual, group or organization that has significantly contributed over many years to educating our community on birds and wildlife conservation in general, so people can appreciate and make informed decisions about our natural world.

### **St. Louis Audubon Conservation Award**

Honors an individual, group or organization that has significantly contributed over many years to the conservation of birds, other wildlife, and their habitats through professional service, volunteerism, or communications.

### **Robert J. Terry Lifetime Achievement Award**

The highest award conferred by our Society, this award honors a member of the St. Louis Audubon Society for his or her many years of dedication, commitment and leadership in service to our Audubon Society and the natural resource community.

If you would like to nominate someone in any of these areas, please send a detailed written description supporting your nomination to Lynne Breakstone by mail at 7220 Princeton, St. Louis, MO 63130 or e-mail at [breaksl@wustl.edu](mailto:breaksl@wustl.edu) by March 1st.

We also offer scholarships for science educators from the St. Louis area that will use the funds to participate in Audubon Ecology Camps and Workshops for educators or similar experiential teacher workshops. To nominate a teacher for this scholarship, please see our website at

<http://www.stlouisaudubon.org/>. Information is found on the "Education" page. ♦

*Creve Coeur* from page 2

The size of Creve Coeur Lake has changed throughout its history, and Little Creve Coeur Lake has all but disappeared. The main lake was nearly dry at a time in the early 1950's, but flooding from the Missouri River in the following seasons restored the lake. From 1974-1981, the EPA funded a major dredging project, increasing the lake's size from 220 to 365 acres and the depth from 18in to 10ft. In the late 90's, after decades of debate, MoDOT built Route 364 over the south end of Creve Coeur Park. As mitigation, over 1,000 additional acres were added to the park and more paved trails were built. Included in the mitigation were a second major dredging and the creation of Mallard Lake as a holding pond to catch silt from creek runoff before reaching the main lake.

The Park is a birding hotspot, largely due to the habitat variety that includes wetlands, open fields, wet forest, and the lake. The Park's importance to birds was recognized by Audubon Missouri which included it in the St. Louis Urban Oases Important Bird Area, with Forest Park and Tower Grove Park. The IBA description highlighted the importance of the Little Creve Coeur Lake wetlands and several at-risk waterbirds, including the American Bittern, Least Bittern, Little Blue Heron, and Common Moorhen.

Little Creve Coeur Lake (LCCL) is the name given to the wetland area south of 364 and west of the Maryland Heights Expressway. The LCCL area includes over 200 acres of wetland pools and shrub marsh and nearly 300 acres of wet prairie and successional bottomland forest. Several factors have led to a general decline in this area over the last several years, but habitat restoration projects are already underway. Check out the March newsletter for part two on Creve Coeur Park, including details on those projects. ♦

*Goldfinch* from page 4

**What if I find one?** If you should be so lucky as to find a Lesser Goldfinch, please document it! Photographs will help tremendously—even if they aren't very good, they are likely to show some diagnostic features. But don't forget to write a description of your bird too, and provide the relevant data about date, time, location, etc. Best practice is to use the form that a state records committee provides. If the bird was seen in Missouri, you can go the Audubon Society of Missouri web site ([www.mobirds.org](http://www.mobirds.org)) and follow the directions there for completing your documentation on line. If that proves difficult for any reason, you can print out a documentation form from that site, complete it, and send it to this author (at 9033 Big Bend, St. Louis, MO 63119) along with your photographs, if any. In Illinois, mail your documentation to Douglas Stotz, Environmental and Conservation Programs, Field Museum of Natural History, 1400 South Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60605. ♦

## Reflections on Winter Birding

By Mike Doyen

There are few things I find more rewarding than walking through the winter forest, or along a spring fed creek whose banks are covered in fresh snow, or in the tall winter grass waving in cadence with the wind in my never ending search for birds. Nature awards your efforts with magnificent sights and wonders you will never see when the outdoors is dressed in summer green.

As you stand along a thicket and begin to push you realize that the birds coming up to greet you are just as excited about seeing you as you are at seeing them. The real surprises come when you just stand there for five or ten minutes and watch nature at work. It is at this moment that the Sharp-shinned Hawk will cruise by; the Towhee will fly into the thick not twenty feet in front of you as a flock of Cedar Waxwing land in a tall tree standing naked against the winter sky, and in the distance you hear the unmistakable gargle of the Red-bellied Woodpecker. If you are really lucky the beaver will come up from his lodge and slap his tail as if to say hello, or a deer will casually walk by giving you a cautious glance just as the Buteo calls out as he begins to circle in search of the thermals.

I think the greatest reward to winter birding is that as you explore and find those really unique and wonderful out of the way places filled with the sounds and sights of winter birds, you gleam with anticipation, because you know you have found another special place that birds call Home. It is a place in nature where, like the birds, you are a welcome visitor and for a moment one with the universe. ♦

## Cerulean Warbler Habitat Preserved in Missouri Ozarks

*The following came from a Dec 10, 2008 press release by the American Bird Conservancy. The Associated Press picked it up and both the KC Star and the Post-Dispatch ran an article on the action.*

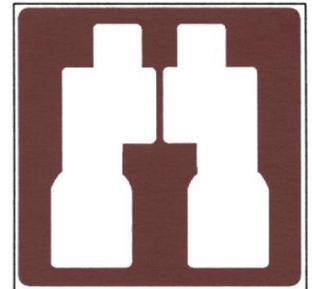
A coalition including American Bird Conservancy, the state of Missouri, The Nature Conservancy, and the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation has protected 80 acres containing important floodplain habitat in the watershed of the Current River, one of North America's most biologically diverse streams. The parcel links together federal and state protected lands and provides breeding habitat for the Cerulean Warbler, whose population is declining throughout its range.

Approximately 37 acres of the tract are in riparian flood plain and have been identified as Cerulean Warbler breeding habitat. American Bird Conservancy committed \$35,000 to the purchase price of the tract because it is in an area of the Ozarks where there are high densities of Cerulean Warbler in the floodplain forests of the Jack's Fork and Current River.

The full text can be found at <http://www.abcbirds.org/newsandreports/releases/081210.html>. ♦

St. Louis Audubon Society  
**Annual Awards Dinner**  
 Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>

**JIM MALLMAN, PRESIDENT, WATCHABLE WILDLIFE, INC.**



We are pleased to announce our 2009 Annual Awards Dinner will take place at Orlando Gardens at 2050 Dorsett Village Plaza in Maryland Heights on Saturday, April 11th. Awards will be presented for Conservationist of the Year, Educator of the Year and Volunteer of the Year. The evening will conclude with a talk from our keynote speaker, Jim Mallman, President of Watchable Wildlife, Inc., a nonprofit that advances wildlife viewing as a viable economic and conservation enterprise for communities throughout North America.

Jim Mallman is a founding Board member of Watchable Wildlife, Inc., and was appointed its president in 2001. Years earlier, while serving as a manager of commodities trading, he began working with state and federal agencies across the country to promote legislation that would secure permanent and stable funding for non-game wildlife. In 1998 he made the decision to redirect his professional efforts toward wildlife conservation. Jim was awarded The President's Award from the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies in 1996.

We hope you will join us for an informative discussion with Mr. Mallman about the funding challenges facing non-game wildlife and habitat work and the huge economic opportunity offered by wildlife viewing and nature-related recreation.

6:30 p.m.—Business Meeting / Open Bar Begins Service

7:30 p.m.—Dinner Service

9:00 p.m.—Keynote Presentation, Jim Mallman

The business meeting is open to all, but only current SLAS members will be allowed to vote in the election of the Board of Directors. Feel free to skip the business portion and arrive anytime in advance of dinner at 7:30 p.m.

The cost is just \$25 per person. Reservations are required—please use the form below.

Space is limited, so please register by April 1st to insure you can enjoy this wonderful evening! Also, please bring your checkbook as we will provide a creative way for you to contribute to the Society's growth.

Orlando Gardens is at 2050 Dorsett Village Plaza in Maryland Heights, just off I-270 and Dorsett in northwest St. Louis County. Take I-270 Exit 17, Dorsett Rd and go west on Dorsett 1/3 mile to McKelvey. Turn right on McKelvey (at the Walgreen's) for quick jog to main Plaza entrance on your left (opposite the Dairy Queen). ♦

**Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Annual Dinner Registration Form**

By April 1st, please mail this form or a copy with payment to:  
 Mitch Leachman, 2728 Lakeport Drive, Maryland Heights, MO 63043  
 Make checks payable to **St. Louis Audubon Society**.

_____	\$25.00 x _____ = _____
Name(s)	Fee No. Total Enclosed

### St. Louis Audubon Society Donation Form

**Mission:** to create a community connection to nature through conservation and education.

Your support will allow us to maintain and expand our efforts in the St. Louis Metro Area. All our programs are free to the public. Thank you very much for your past support!

Name:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address:  
\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip:  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail or Phone (if desired):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to:  
St. Louis Audubon Society  
Mail Checks to:  
St. Louis Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 220227  
St. Louis, MO 63122-0227

Education Only

Conservation Only

International Efforts Only

General Fund--Unrestricted

Contributions are Tax Deductible

*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

[www.stlouisaudubon.org](http://www.stlouisaudubon.org)

St. Louis Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 220227  
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