

CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH NATURE



Summer **Newsletter**

July · Aug · Sept

Bobolink by Gary Erickson

Calendar of events:

Monthly Bird Walks at Quarry Hill

July 1, Aug. 5, & Sept. 2. Meet at 9 am at the Quarry Hill Nature Center and join us on a casual walk thru the park. Walks usually last about one hour. Free and open to the public - no registration required. Leaders: Terry & Joyce Grier

Sat., July 9 - Bug Hunt

3 - 5 pm / Leader: Joel Dunnette

Meet at 3 pm at **Chester Woods Park**. We'll search the prairie and woods of Chester Woods for as many as we can find. We will see up close dragonflies, butterflies, bugs, beetles, and more. Bring your kids, as this will be an active, fun search that will need their keen eyes and youthful enthusiasm. Check the sign posted at the entry station for the picnic shelter where we will meet. Note: All vehicles entering the park are required to display either an annual or daily entrance permit.

Sat., July 29 - Chimney Swift Sit

8 - 9 pm / Leader: Greg Munson /

Each year citizen scientists count migrating Chimney Swifts that gather in large numbers to roost for the night at sites all over the US. Last year Nature Nut Greg Munson identified Assisi Heights as an important roosting spot. This year Greg and the nuns have graciously invited ZVAS members to come watch and count the Swifts before they leave for their winter home in South America. Bring a lawn chair, bug spray and binoculars. **Note:** Assisi Heights is private property and not open

to the public - do not visit this site without

permission.

Visit **ZumbroValleyAudubon.org** to confirm all events.

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Tues., August 22 - All About **Monarch Butterflies**

At Quarry Hill Nature Center Leader: Joel Dunnette & Pamela Meyer

Due to the popularity of this program we've split the program into two parts. Familes with young children should come to the early event, adults and older students to the second.

3:30 - 5 pm: Hands on activities for kids including butterfly crafts, up close looks at butterfly anatomy, tagging & releasing. Young children must be accompanied by an adult.

6:30 - 7:30 pm: Short presentation about butterflies in general & Monarch migration followed by a short tag & release opportunity (program best for older students and adults)

Sat., Sept. 23, 2017 - Root **River County Park Walk 8 - 11am**

This park has nice walking trails and good diverse habitat for a wide variety of birds. Meet at the Heintz Center at 8 am to car pool.

Tues., Sept. 26, 2017 - Red **Headed Woodpeckers**

7 - 8 pm at Quarry Hill Nature Center /

Presented by Gene Merriam

Gene Merriam, former state senator, hunter, fisherman, birdwatcher and champion of many environmental issues, will talk to us about how the Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis and the Red-headed Woodpecker Recovery Committee is working toward saving and creating nesting habitat for these beautiful birds.

Tiger Swallowtail by Gary Erickson