

*Wisconsin  
Phenological Society  
Financial Statement*

*for the fiscal year  
beginning March 31, 2011 and  
ending March 31, 2012*

Balance as of March 31, 2011	\$2,607.76
Withdrawals	\$10.00
Deposits	\$0.00
Interest	\$3.39
Balance as of March 31, 2012	\$2,601.15

*Waukesha State Bank, 100  
Bank Street PO Box 648  
Waukesha, WI 53187*

**Phenology on the  
World Wide Web**



The internet is full of phenological possibilities. Check out the following links:

- ♣ [www.wps.uwm.edu](http://www.wps.uwm.edu) - WPS Website
- ♣ [www.usanpn.org](http://www.usanpn.org) - The USA National Phenology Network website. Participation by citizen scientists is strongly encouraged.
- ♣ [www.usanpn.org/lilac](http://www.usanpn.org/lilac) - The USA National Phenology Network Cloned Plants Project
- ♣ [www.naturenet.com/EarthAlive](http://www.naturenet.com/EarthAlive) - Phenology for children, families and classrooms.
- ♣ [neoninc.org/budburst](http://neoninc.org/budburst) - Project Budburst—a NEON field campaign focused on citizen scientists.

Please support the Wisconsin Phenological Society's objectives by paying annual dues or becoming a life member. Annual dues are used primarily to defray the mailing cost of this Newsletter.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

Check the Appropriate items:

- \$2 for 2012/13 dues
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ as further contribution to the work of the Society
- \$50 Lifetime Membership
- Please delete my name from the membership list
- Please send me information regarding programs of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters

Please send the above information along with your dues to:  
Mark D. Schwartz, President, Wisconsin Phenological Society  
c/o Geography Department, UW-Milwaukee, PO Box 413, Milwaukee, WI 53201

**Data collection sheets** are no longer being used. Please register and report your observations at <http://www.usanpn.org>. If you do not have access to the Internet, contact Mark D. Schwartz and request a paper observation form.

# Wisconsin Phenological Society 2012

Department of Geography, UW-Milwaukee  
P.O. Box 413, Milwaukee, WI 53201  
Tel: (414) 229-3740 \* Fax: (414) 229-3981  
[mds@uwm.edu](mailto:mds@uwm.edu)  
[www.wps.uwm.edu](http://www.wps.uwm.edu)



## WPS Annual Spring Meeting

Please join us for our Annual Spring Meeting  
On Saturday, May 12, 2012  
From 1:00 - 4:00 pm  
UW-Milwaukee Field Station  
3095 Blue Goose Road  
Saukville, WI 53080

*Those who plan to attend should visit [www.fieldstation.uwm.edu](http://www.fieldstation.uwm.edu) for directions or call Mark D. Schwartz at (414) 229-3740.*

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

What an extraordinary spring we have had so far! With the warm winter and record-breaking March high temperatures across the eastern and central United States, this may well be the earliest recorded arrival of the spring growing season in many of those areas, including across Wisconsin. I observed first leaf emergence from the buds for the common lilacs in my Shorewood, WI backyard on March 14<sup>th</sup>, which is the earliest by a week for this event since I moved here in 1992. Further, based on my spring indices (SI) models and past climate data from Mitchell Field, it would appear to be the earliest onset of spring growth for the Milwaukee area since at least the early 1940s, when records at the current airport site began. Also, as someone who enjoys fresh rhubarb pie each spring, I note that as I write this message (Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>), there has been enough growth that I will be able to make the first rhubarb pie of the season today. This is about a month earlier than usual. Given all the early growth most plants are now thoroughly “committed” to the new growing season, and frost damage remains a considerable threat. We will see how it all plays out over the next six weeks!

My graduate students and I continue to work on projects funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). One supports my research work, and the other is for development of the USA-National Phenology Network (USA-NPN) Research Coordination Network (RCN). A newly funded research project this year will support observing autumn tree phenology at our study sites near Park Falls, WI. We want to continue working with students and teachers from area high schools as they track tree phenology for comparison to the measurements at our study site. It would be quite useful for us to have as many autumn phenological measurements as possible in the areas close to the research site, so if you live in northern Wisconsin, within 50 miles or so of Park Falls, and would like to help us monitor tree phenology, please let me know. Thanks to those who contacted me over the last year!

We continue expanding our affiliation and coordination with the USA National Phenology Network (USA-NPN). I encourage everyone to register and observe phenology using the USA-NPN on-line system at <http://www.usanpn.org>. Newly added this year, almost all of the original WPS plant and animal species has now been assigned to protocols and included by USA-NPN for observation. See the full list by selecting WPS from the “Partners” shown at [http://www.usanpn.org/species\\_search](http://www.usanpn.org/species_search). Again this year we want to make the WPS Spring meeting (scheduled for Sat., May 12<sup>th</sup> starting at 1:00pm) more of an “outdoor interactive” experience, along with helping members gain skill and excitement for taking and recording phenological observations (hopefully WITHOUT RAIN this year). The meeting will start with a short introduction to phenological monitoring and talk about the monitoring done at the UW-Milwaukee Field Station (FS). Then we will go out and tour the phenological monitoring and associated activities at the FS, such as the weather station, lilac garden, global phenology garden, tree swallow nest boxes, as well as taking a short walk in the woods following the transect used for native plant monitoring. We will point out phenophases of trees along the way and identify wildflowers in bloom, etc. After the outdoor tour, we will come back to the FS for some refreshments, and a demonstration of using the USA-NPN website to enter data. I look forward to seeing many of you there on May 12<sup>th</sup>.



Mark D. Schwartz  
President

## 2012 NATURAL HISTORY WORKSHOPS at the UWM FIELD STATION

*The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Field Station  
conducts a series of Natural History Workshops*

These workshops offer an opportunity to study focused topics at college-level instruction under the guidance of noted authorities. We offer two-day and week-long workshops, and housing and meals are available at the Station.

Enrollment is limited to 20, the atmosphere is informal and instruction is individualized. Workshops may be taken for graduate or undergraduate credit by enrolling in UWM, Topics in Field Biology. Fees vary. Please contact the Field Station for more information and a registration form, or visit our website at <http://www4.uwm.edu/fieldstation/workshops/> for full descriptions of each course, fee information, and a downloadable Registration Form. The 2012 summer workshop schedule includes eight courses:

### **Field Herpetology: Identification of Wisconsin Amphibians and Reptiles**

Instructor: Dr. Josh Kapfer  
June 1 & 2 (Friday & Saturday)  
June 3 (Sunday) is optional

### **Spiders: Identification & Ecology**

Instructor: Dr. Michael Draney  
Aug. 24 & 25 (Friday & Saturday)

### **Techniques in Mammal Censusing**

Instructor: Dr. Christopher Yahneke  
Sept. 15 & 16 (Saturday & Sunday)

### **Sedges: Identification and Ecology**

Instructor: Dr. Anton Reznicek  
June 15 & 16 (Friday & Saturday)

### **Vegetation of Wisconsin**

Instructors: Dr. James Reinartz and Marc White  
June 18 - 23 (Monday - Saturday)

### **Methods for Description of Vegetation**

Instructor: Dr. James Reinartz  
July 16 - 21 (Monday - Saturday)

### **Introduction to Insects**

Instructors: Dr. Gretchen Meyer and Robert Clare  
July 27 & 28 (Friday & Saturday)

### **Native Mussels of Wisconsin, an Amazing Resource**

Instructor: Lisie Kitchel  
August 10 & 11 (Friday & Saturday)

### **2012 Natural History Workshops**

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
Field Station  
3095 Blue Goose Road  
Saukville, WI 53080  
262 675-6844 phone  
262 675-0337 fax  
fieldstn@uwm.edu