



THE STILT

BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

Vol. 13, No. 5

January 1985

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

○ = BAS event
 △ = Sierra Club event

MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS

Wed. Jan. 2: Planning Meeting - 7:00 p.m. in 112B in the Natural Resources Building on the USU Campus. Please plan to attend, as we welcome participation from ALL members.

Thurs. Jan. 10: BAS Meeting - 7:30 p.m. in Business Building Auditorium on the USU Campus. Dr. Richard Fisher, Head of the USU Forestry Department, will give a talk

on deficit timber sales in our region. Please come and hear Dr. Fisher's comments on this controversial issue!

Thurs. Jan. 10: Cache Group Sierra Club Meeting - 7:00 p.m. in room 327 in the Taggart Student Center on the USU Campus. Topic to be announced. For more information, contact Bryan Dixon, 752-6830.

Mon. Jan. 14: Film Series - 7:00 p.m. at the Logan Library, free of charge. Two films will be shown, followed by a discussion lead by a local Audubon Society naturalist. The films this night are "Territorial Behavior of the Uganda Kob," about the African Antelope, and "Patuxent Wildlife Research Center," about the Fish and Wildlife's special recovery programs for endangered species.

Wed. Jan. 16: Education Meeting - 7:30 p.m. in 112B in the Natural Resources Building on the USU Campus. Program to be announced. Call Betsy Neely (753-3763) for details.

Mon. Jan. 28: Film Series - 7:00 p.m. at the Logan Library, free of charge. The film, "Lions of Serengeti" will be shown, followed by a discussion led by a local Audubon Society naturalist.

FIELD TRIPS AND OUTINGS

Sun. Jan. 13: Sierra Club Ski Tour - 9a.m. at the USU Student Center parking lot. Intermediate to advanced ski tour in Logan Canyon. For more details, contact leader Vince Stack, 752-2654.

Sun. Jan. 20: Sierra Club Telemark Workshop - 9:00 a.m. at the USU Student Center parking lot. Telemark workshop in Logan Canyon with Thor Dyson. Learn how to turn! For more information, contact leader, Craig Kaupp, 753-6774.

Sun. Jan. 27: Sierra Club Cross-Country - 9:00 a.m. at the USU Student Center parking lot. BEGINNERS cross-country. Lots of kicking and gliding. For more information contact leader, Marco Waaland, 750-1848 or Catherine Sharpsteen, 752-1996.

Sun. Feb. 3: Sierra Club Ski Tour - 9 a.m. at the USU Student Center parking lot. Your chance to explore some snow shelters in Logan Canyon. For more details, contact leader Vince Stack, 752-2654.

SUBMISSIONS POLICY

What should you submit to the newsletter? Announcements about field trips, activities, committee decisions, meetings, etc. News about local environmental topics. A summary of an interesting article you have read. A recommendation for a book you've just read and think everyone else should. A sighting of a rare bird or beast. A synopsis of a relevant experience you've had. In short, just about anything having to do with the Audubon Society and other conservation groups, or with the environment around you. The editor reserves the right to make additions, subtractions, and corrections. Articles need not be typed if your handwriting is legible. All articles should include author's name, address, and phone number, and should be in the editor's hands by the 15th of the month. Send submissions to: Charlotte Wright, editor, The Stilt, Bridgerland Audubon Society, P.O. Box 3501, Logan, UT 84321. Or, you may bring them by my office in the Library, #367.

EDITOR'S NOTES

Because each month I receive more articles and news items for The Stilt than I can print,

I've decided to try out a space-saving in this newsletter. I've combined the "Calendar of Events" with the "Meetings and Programs." I hope the change will be a more efficient use of space, as well as a more effective means of communication. Feel free to contact me if you object, as I'm still considering other options.

This issue of the newsletter brings a change: the addition of a list of Cache National Sierra Club meetings and outings. I hope sharing of information will be of use to you as it continues throughout the year.

Al Stokes has contributed this month's quotation, along with a reminder to me that perhaps mine have been a bit esoteric. I did warn you all of my literary bent! Of course, I welcome contributions of "quotables" from any BAS member--along with comments on the relevance of those I have chosen to include in the newsletter. Here's Al's (authored by José Ortega y Gasset): "Paternalism is not only protecting the land of our forefathers, but also conserving the land of our children." Indeed, this is a thought to ponder. Thank you, Al.

Charlotte Wright

ISSUES OF INTEREST

Proposed legislation for an instream flow amendment has finally become a reality. Currently, Utah's laws do not include instream uses, such as fish and wildlife habitat, "beneficial use" of the water. Passage of this bill would insure that a minimum amount of water must be left in the streams, and would prevent situations such as the current one in Blacksmith Fork Canyon, where fish are left to die in the dry streambeds while the water is totally diverted for other uses. Copies of the proposed amendment can be obtained from: State of Utah/Natural Resources/Wildlife Resources/1596 West North Temple/Salt Lake City, UT 84116.

BAS is co-sponsoring an all-day workshop titled Canyonlands: National Park or Nuclear Dump? The workshop is tentatively scheduled for 8 February 1985. Check next month's letter for last-minute information on this important free workshop. As you probably know, Governor-elect Norm Bangerter has stepped out in opposition to the dump. Let him know you support this stand by writing to him at the State Capitol Building/Salt Lake City, UT 84114.

We are currently reviewing the proposed Wasatch-Cache National Forest plan. This plan will be used to set policy for our forest for the next 50 years. If you would like to help out with the review, contact Steve Flint or Chuck Warner. There is plenty of time to go around, (1000-plus pages), so don't be shy.

The Rocky Mountain Regional Office of Audubon reminds all members to read the short essay on page 36 of November's Audubon magazine. It is an alarming article about the current effects of DDT. The regional office suggests you copy it and send it to stores in your area which sell fertilizers and pesticides, or write a letter to your local newspaper editor about it.

The regional office also reports that the Fish and Wildlife Service are trying to revive outdated "predator control" policies for use in Wildlife Refuges. After stating several reasons why these policies should not be reinstated, the article reminds readers that the "National Audubon's position of predator killing on Refuges is crystal clear; the Society opposes killing predators except when necessary for the survival of a threatened or endangered species." The regional office asks that you notify them if you hear of any specific, local predator killing campaigns. The address is: Rocky Mountain Regional Office/4150 Darley/Suite 5/Boulder, CO 80303.

The Tucson Audubon Society is again sponsoring the Institute of Desert Ecology. It will be held May 3-6 at Catalina State Park. You may write for a brochure from June Hirsch/Tucson Audubon Society/30-A N. Tucson Boulevard/Tucson, AZ 85716.

The Utah Audubon Society is sponsoring a Colorado Plateau Lecture Series on Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium on the UNIVERSITY OF UTAH CAMPUS. The cost is \$2.50 per lecture, or \$25 for a series ticket (January through March). On January 7, the speaker will be Ann Zwinger; on January 14, William Lee Stokes; on January 21, William Lee Stokes; and on January 28, Stephen Trimble. For more information, call the editor of this newsletter, or write to Jeanne Le Bar, Editor/Utah Audubon Society News/P.O. Box 9419/Salt Lake City, UT 84109.

1985 ECOLOGY CAMPS AND WORKSHOPS SCHEDULED

"This summer let your senses run wild." So begins the brochure describing the National Audubon Society's 1985 Ecology Camps and Workshops Summer Program.

Adult Programs in Ecology and Natural History - For more than 40 years the Society has conducted this program, long recognized as one of its most rewarding educational efforts. One- and two-week adult sessions are filled with activities that meet the learning and recreational needs of teachers, beginning and advanced naturalists, chapter activities, students, and others with an interest in the environment. Conducted at beautiful sites located in Maine, Connecticut, Wisconsin, and Wyoming, these programs are also available for University credit.

Expanded Youth Ecology Camps and Family Camp - A special focus, in addition to the traditional adult education programs, is the special session for children in Maine and Wyoming, as well as the one for families in Wisconsin. The goal of our Audubon Youth Ecology Camps is to establish a warm atmosphere in which young people ages 10-15 learn more about themselves, their environment, and how they relate to it. Children develop outdoor skills and learn ecological concepts that can be applied at home and in school for the rest of their lives. The Family Ecology Camp Session in Wisconsin is designed to allow parents and their children to share in this warm learning experience.

Special Field Ornithology and Nature Photography Sessions - Additionally, special study sessions are scheduled for participation by individuals interested in a particular area. In Wyoming, you are offered the opportunity of joining in a Nature Photography Workshop led by superbly qualified photographers, while in Maine you may join sessions on Field Ornithology designed for both the beginning and advanced birder.

The cost of participation in these Workshops ranges from \$385 for one-week sessions to \$525 for 10-day sessions, to \$625 for the two-week sessions. For a fully-detailed color brochure on the programs, write to Audubon Camps and Workshops/613-A Riversville Road/Greenwich, CT 06830. Space is limited, so enroll early!

NAS BIENNIAL CONVENTION PLANNED

Lake George, in the magnificent Adirondacks of New York State, will be the setting for the 1985 National Audubon Society Biennial Convention. An exciting program has been pulled together with participation from all sections of Audubon, including nationally known conservationists from the government and private sectors. Fieldtrips are included in the June 16-21 convention period. Daytime workshops and keynote speakers will highlight all areas of Audubon involvement in research, education, and action. Many Adirondack biologists and naturalists will be on hand to lead workshops and field trips. Evening programs will include a skit about the life of J.J. Audubon, folk singing, Paul Winter Consort musical gala, a barbeque, and contra and square dancing. A special program for children in grades K through 6 will be conducted daily during adult workshop sessions. Outdoor and indoor activities will be part of this program, including folk singing with Bill Oliver from Austin, Texas.

National Audubon Society members can take advantage of special air fares from their home city to Albany, N.Y. via American Airlines. This fare is up to 30% lower than normal coach fares and has no minimum stay restriction. By taking advantage of the special fare, you also help support the NAS. For every 50 members flying American Airlines, the Society will receive one free ticket to be used in bringing special speakers to participate in the 1985 convention. To receive the special fare and insure that the NAS gets credit for it, all reservations need to be made through the CONNECTICUT TRAVEL CENTER (CALIGO VENTURES) by calling their toll-free number, 800-235-1216.

SUNFLOWER SEED TO BE REORDERED

The four tons of sunflower seed that we got in mid-October was sold out before Thanksgiving Day. Another order will be picked up in Tremonton in January. Persons wanting seed should call Elaine Watkins at 752-1724 or Al Stokes at 752-2702 as soon as possible. This will be the last chance to buy seed for this winter. Only those ordering seed now will be able to buy it from Audubon. Price is still 30¢ per pound. Minimum order is 50 pounds.

NEW AUDUBON CAMP PROGRAM

The already excellent Audubon Camp in the West has just become even better! Growing interest in a different type of experience prompted the camp staff to develop a BACKPACK PROGRAM that promises a quality wilderness experience with a very tangible research-oriented content.

Participants will embark on a 14-day venture into the back country to collect diverse data in a whole ecosystem approach. After spending the first two days at the Camp in the West learning data collection technique, participants will experience days in the field, and two days of debriefing and data organization. The backpack program promises fun and education, all at the low price of \$375. College credit is also available. If you would like to register, contact Al Stokes, Chuck Warner or Betsy Neely at Logan, or write Don Nelson at Rocky Mountain Regional Office/4150 Darley/Suite 5/Boulder, CO 80303.

Chuck Warner

CHANGES

The current officers have served us well, but their terms of office are expiring. Your nominations for the positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to nominate a friend, or volunteer your own services for one of the positions, do so NOW by calling Terry at 563-3910. Don't be afraid to get involved. There are also spaces on some of the committees and on the planning board which need to be filled. If you feel you can help at all, please contact one of the officers or chairpersons to let them know you're interested to do your part.

A special request has come from the regional office requesting a volunteer who will be responsible for clipping and distributing environmental news appearing in the newspaper. The regional office needs this information to better gauge local and state concerns. This important job would not take much more time than just reading your newspaper every morning, so why not volunteer to help out?

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A University on Wheels

The Audubon Expedition Institute is a small group of inquiring college, high school, graduate students, and staff members who travel across the country as a learning community. As they camp out September-May and summers—hiking, canoeing, and skiing—the Expedition visits people and places to observe, discover, question, and develop a practical awareness of relationships within and between America's ecosystems, cultures, and history.

Send for complete information packet and student newsletter

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Students are admitted regardless of their race, sex, religion or national origin

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BAS WELCOMES . . .

New members to the BAS are Kate Dwire, Tim Gardner, Shari Klebba, Irma Marvin Moon, Genie Tomsen, Bob Trowbridge family, and the Skyview High School Library. Renewals and transfers into our chapter are R.K. Archibald, Leroy B. Beasley, Richard J. Mueller and Twain Tippetts. A hearty welcome to all.

HOLLY FAIR BOOST TO AUDUBON

Once again, BAS provided countless hours of enjoyment to the children of Cache County, who hammered together nest boxes and bird feeders and painted hundreds of Christmas tree ornaments while their parents received tips on how to feed birds. Marilyn Jones again headed this annual project in splendid fashion. Helping her were Wendell Anderson, Doug Allington, Pat Bahler, Suzanne Blakely, Tom Cronkite, John Barnes, Betty Boeker, Diane Behl, Kevin Connors, Al Carpenter, Kate Dwire, Ted Daniel, Karen Fisher, Ruth Hendricks, Barbara Howell, Tom Gordon, Tom Jones, Daisy Hughes, Reinhard Jockel, Kori Pilkington, Forrest Jordan, Dorothy Lewis, Jim Mindyas, Ed Mendenhall, Betsy Neely, Ron Ryel, Alice and Al Stokes, James Shook, Kirk Williams, Chuck and Nancy Warner, Melva Wiebe, Big Bird Jan Young, Eric Zurcher and probably a few others. This annual project makes Bridgerland Audubon a household name, and one held

in high favor in the valley. Our thanks to all who so graciously volunteered their time.

Allen Stokes

Should You Be Getting Action Alert?

Action Alerts are one-page bulletins issued by the Washington, D.C., office when there is an urgent need to rally conservationist support. They contain background information on legislation, recent developments, and suggestions and requests for things members can do to help, such as writing letters to their elected representatives or making telephone calls. There are 15 to 20 Alerts a year, and they are available without charge to members who wish to ensure sound environmental legislation.

National Audubon can send Action Alert only to people who write the necessary letters and make the requested phone calls. If you are one of these invaluable individuals, please fill out and mail the coupon.

ACTION ALERT

National Audubon Society
645 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20003

Please put me on the Action Alert mailing list.

NAME (Please print)

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Congressional district (Audubon can supply later):

My special fields of interest are:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clean air | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clean water | <input type="checkbox"/> Water projects | <input type="checkbox"/> Toxics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public lands | <input type="checkbox"/> Population | |

BUILD A BIRD FEEDER FOR A BUCK

Americans spend over \$54 million each year on backyard birdfeeding stations, and more than \$500 million on bird seed. Now the Fish and Wildlife Service has a way for you to build your own winter feeding station for next to nothing. In fact, the Interior Department agency's two new novel birdfeeding designs can help make a big dent in your load of trash, as well as supply you with quick and easy craft ideas for schoolchildren. Where the price of many commercial bird feeders often start at \$10, these two designs can be built for about a dollar, depending upon the household materials and simple tools you might already have on hand. Both feeders can be built in about an hour.

The first, to be explained in this issue, is a sunflower feeder which will draw chickadees, nuthatches, cardinals, and other winter residents, according to Fish and Wildlife biologists Alex Knight and Willard M. Spaulding, Jr., who created the designs. The other, to be explained in the next issue, is a smaller, thistle seed feeder which is popular with goldfinches, wild canaries, pine siskins, and redpolls.

Sunflower Seed Feeder

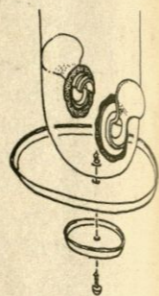
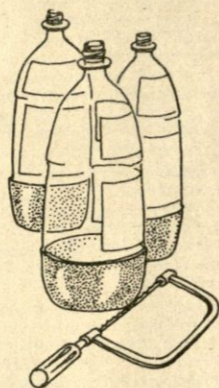
Materials needed: Three 2-liter plastic soft-drink bottles, a 7-inch dessert topping lid, a baby food jar lid, a coping saw, a single-edged razor blade or "X-acto" knife, all-weather rubber sealant, 8 inches of wire or monofilament fishing line, a small nail or 7/16-inch bit and hand drill, a metal or wood screw.

Soak a 2-liter bottle in warm, soapy water to clean inside and remove label. Pull off the colored plastic base, but save it for use as a measuring device when cutting the feeding holes.

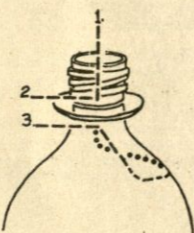
Step 1: Using a second 2-liter bottle, make a perpendicular cut with the coping saw at the bottle's mouth down to the point at which the neck collar begins. Make a second cut at, and slightly above, the collar perpendicular to the first cut. Discard the cut piece. Cut the remaining section of the neck and collar away from the bottle, leaving at least a 1-inch flange of plastic beneath the collar. Using a third 2-liter bottle, repeat these same steps. The two spouts that result will be used as feeding holes, with their neck pieces preventing seed spill-out.

6

SUNFLOWER SEED FEEDER



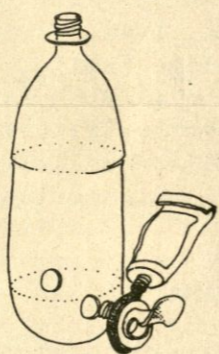
Step 4



Step 1



Step 5



Steps 2, 3



Step 2: Cut two 1-inch circular holes across from each other in the sides of the first bottle. The top of the plastic base that was removed earlier will serve as a gasket. The top of each cut should be made at the same point as the top of the plastic base.

Step 3: Apply sealant around the outside of each feeding hole. Insert the spouts into the bottle, flange end outward. The collar on each spout and the sealant will form a watertight "gasket." Secure with a rubber band until dry.

Step 4: Using the drill or small nail, make two small holes in the bottom of the bottle. Attach the two lids, with the baby food

lid on the bottom, to the bottom of the bottle with the metal or wood screw. The topping lid will form the perch that the baby food lid will stabilize.

Step 5: Drill or punch two small, parallel holes in the bottle top. String wire or monofilament line through the holes and tie. Once the bottle is filled with sunflower seeds, screw the top onto the bottle.

Now that you've built your bird feeder, what should you feed backyard birds? In some cases, not the birdseed you commonly find at the grocery store. The Fish and Wildlife Service's report, "Relative Attractiveness of Different Foods at Wild Bird Feeders," will tell you what seed mixtures draw the most sought-after species where you live. For a copy, send a check or money order for \$2.75 to the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 (specify the report by title and by stock number 024-010-00587-4).

REPORT ON THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY BOARD MEETING

The Audubon Board met at National Headquarters in New York City November 29-December 1, in conjunction with the Annual Dinner. Of greatest impact was a report on the compromise plan for the Garrison Diversion project in North Dakota. It now seems likely that the North Dakota Congressional delegation is willing to reduce the scale of this huge irrigation plan so as to minimize the loss of North Dakota's priceless waterfowl refuges, as well as to stop the risk of diverting water into the Hudson River drainage with its concomitant risk of introducing unwanted organisms of danger to Canada's biota. Audubon played a major role in providing experts' information to the study commission, on which Audubon board member James Teer served. It is hoped that other controversial water projects may be resolved through similar studies.

Undoubtedly, the highlight of the meeting was the annual Audubon Dinner. Audubon's prestigious Audubon Medal was presented to Joe Hickey for his recognition of the threat of DDT to birds, especially to the peregrine falcon, Hickey, noted for his famous off-key and at times somewhat off-color vaudeville songs given during board members' field trips,

acquiesced to the demand of the 700-person audience at the dinner. Ted Turner, who has done so much to foster Audubon's World of Audubon TV series, gave a moving speech indicating how much he has gained personally by helping Audubon. Finally, Governor Mario Cuomo gave a humorous and rousing speech that was a near match to his famous speech at the Democratic Convention. It was a heart-warming feeling to realize that we had such an environmentally aware person as New York's governor.

Allen Stokes

TAKE CARE

Three cardinal rules for ensuring the longevity of your slides are:
Store your slides in a cool, dry environment.

Project only duplicates.

Do not keep slides in polyvinylchloride storage sheets.

The color dyes used in slides progressively deteriorate with time. Some emulsions are more stable than others, but all undergo slow chemical changes that cumulatively degrade the image. These reactions are quickened by high temperature and humidity.

Few can resist the temptation to project originals, yet a projector's heat and light drastically hasten the degradation of color dyes.

Plastic storage sheets pose an even more insidious threat to your slides' well-being. Some of these are archivally sound, but the most common, made from polyvinylchloride, cause severe damage. They contain plasticizer solvents, and residual catalysts that are volatile and form a deposit on the emulsion. Hydrochloric acid is also released when PVC reacts with moisture. After a few years you will notice a fine pattern of pits all over your best slides, the ones you cared enough about to store carefully. By contrast, polypropylene and polyethylene sheets are harmless. A rule of thumb is: if you can smell it, don't use it.

FROM THE PUBLISHERS!

Due to a breakdown of the typewriter The Stilt has a different appearance this month. Hopefully we will be back in full swing next month.