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
14   15   16   17   18   19
21   22   23   24   25   26
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.
I've decided to try out a space-saving
in this newsletter. I've combined a cal-endar of Events with the "Meetings and
programs." I hope the change will be a
benefit rather than a hindrance. As an
effective means of communication,
I hope to contact you, if at all
considering other options.

The other change in the newsletter has
been the addition of a list of Sierra Club
Meetings and outings. The sharing of
information will be of less use if
we do not hear from the participants.
Al Stokes has contributed this
quotation, along with a reminder to
maybe have a book around. It does
warn you of all my literary biases.
Of course, I welcome contributions of
"ables" from any BAS member—along
with comments on the relevance of those
I have to include in the newsletter. Reni
(authored by José Ortega y Gasset) is
not only protecting the land of our
forefathers, but also conserving the
land for our children. Indeed, this is a
wonder. Thank you, 
Charlotte Riggle

INTERESTS OF ISSUE

Proposed legislation for an improve-
ment amendment has finally become a
reality. Utah's laws do not include in-
use, such as fish and wildlife habits,
"beneficial use" of the water. Passage
this bill would insure that a majority
would prevent situations such as the
one in Blacksmith Fork Canyon, where
the left to die in the dry streamsbeds
water is totally diverted for other uses.
Copies of the proposed amendment can
be obtained from: State of Utah/Natural
Wildlife Resources/1536 West North
Salt Lake City, UT 84115.

The Audubon Society is again sponsor-
ing the Institute of Desert Ecology. It
will be held May 5-6 at Catalina State Park. You
may write for a brochure from June Hirsch/Tuc-
on Audubon Society/30-A N. Tucson Bou-
evart/Tucson, AZ 85716.

The Audubon Society is sponsoring a
Colorado Plateau Lecture Series on Monday
rings at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Au-
torium at the UNIVERSITY OF UTAH CAMPU.

The cost is $2.00 per lecture, or $25 for
a series ticket (January through March).

January 7, the speaker will be Ann Zwin-
er on January 14, William Lee Stokes on
January 21, William Lee Stokes, and on Janu-
ary 28, Stephen Trumble. For more infor-

the editor of this newsletter, contact Lee Stokes, head
out in the State Capitol Building/Salt Lake
City, UT 84114.

1985 ECOLOGY CAMPS AND WORKSHOPS SCHEDULED

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

ADULT PROGRAMS in Ecology and Natural
History - More than 40 years ago the Society has
conducted this program, long recognized as
one of its most rewarding educational ef-forts. 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

The workshop is tentatively scheduled for
for 8 February 1985. Check next week
letter for last-minute information on
important free workshop. As you prob-
ably know, Governor-elect Norm Bangerter
is out in the State Capitol Building/Salt Lake
City, UT 84109.
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 fields. 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 barbecue, 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 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 Trumansburg in January. Persons wanting seed should call Elaine Watkin at 752-1724 or Al Stokes at 752-2702 as soon as possible. This will be the last chance to buy seed for the birds. 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! In an interesting variation on a different type of experience prompted the camp staff to have Backpack Audubon. A national program promises a broad experience with a very research-oriented content.

Participants will embark on a real adventure into the back country to collect bird and wildlife data in a whole new way. After spending the first two days at a Camp in the West, learning data collection techniques, participants will spend four days in the field, and two days of helping and data organization. The backpack program promises fun and education, at the low price of $375. College credits are also available. If you would like to come through a brochure on the project, call Al Stokes, Chuck Warner or Betty Hen Logan, or write Don Nelson at Rocky Mt. Regional Office/4150 Barley/Beta Mtn. CO 80020.

CHANGES

The current officers have served well and, but their terms of office are expiring. Your nominations for the posts of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer will be greatly appreciated. If you would like to nominate a friend, volunteer your own services for one of these positions, do so NOW by calling us at 563-3910. Don't be afraid to get involved. There are also spaces on some of the committees and on the planning board that need to be filled. If you feel you can spare the time, please contact one of the officers or chairpersons to let them know you're interested in doing your part. A special request has come from the Audubon office requesting a volunteer who will be responsible for clipping and mailing this newsletter. The regional office is concerned about how that job is going. This important job would be much more than just reading your paper every morning, so why not help out?

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY EXHIBITION INSTITUTE

Our Classroom is Wild America. You can't do anything wrong here. You can be anything you want to be. We'll help you prac the practical skills of living in community, developing community, developing community, managing community, developing community, developing community, and community, developing community, developing community, developing community, and community. We'll help you with practical skills in living in community, developing community, managing community, and community, developing community, developing community, and community, developing community, developing community, developing community.

Our Classroom is Albert Einstein's "Peace through Science." We believe we can build a better world through science and technology.

Who Should Apply: High school, college, university, or high school or university instructors, research directors, second-year or third-year graduate students, field scientists, and students who want to learn about natural science. Applicants must show a commitment to natural science at all levels of education. Applicants must have an interest in natural science at all levels of education. Applicants must have an interest in natural science at all levels of education. Applicants must have an interest in natural science at all levels of education.

The expedition is extended to all natural science at all levels of education. Applicants must have an interest in natural science at all levels of education. Applicants must have an interest in natural science at all levels of education. Applicants must have an interest in natural science at all levels of education. Applicants must have an interest in natural science at all levels of education.


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BILLY FAIR BOOST TO AUDUBON

Once again, BAS provided countless hours of enjoyment to the children of Cache County, who hampered 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 has headed this annual project in splendid fashion. Helping her were Wendell Anderson, Kay Allington, Pat Bahler, Suzanne Blakely, Tom Crenkiss, John Barnes, Betty Boeker, Diane Buhl, Kevin Conners, Al Carpenter, Kate Davis, and Spring. pancakes and hundreds of chickens.

ACTION ALERT

National Audubon Society 64 Whitmore Street, Suite B Washington, D.C. 20003

Please put me on the Action Alert mailing list.

NAME (please print)

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE ZIP CODE

PHONE (should be used for notices from AL) HOME (may be used for your home)

Congressional district (Audubon can supply data if you wish)

My special fields of interest are:

☐Clean air ☐Nature ☐Clean water ☐Water projects ☐Energy ☐Toxics ☐Public lands ☐Population

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

Allen Stokes

Should You Be Getting Action Alert?

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BUILD A BIRD FEEDER FOR A BUCK

Americans spend over $54 million each year on backyard bird feeding 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 material 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 biologist Alex Knight and William 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 flat 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.

Step 2: Cut two 1-inch circular holes in the bottle. The top of the plastic base was removed earlier will serve as the top point of each, and the top of each should be made the same point as the top of the plastic.

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

Step 4: Using the drill or small nail, small holes in the bottom of the bottle and the dessert topping and baby food lidded on the bottom, to the bottom of the bottle with the metal or wood screw. The coping 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 "Relative Attractiveness of Different Foods at Wild Bird Feeders," will tell you what seed mixes drew 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 Convention. Of greatest impact was a report on the compromise plan for the Garrison Diverion project in North Dakota. It 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 House committee, on which Audubon board member James Teer served. It is hoped that other controversial water projects may be avoided through similar studies.

Undoubtedly, the highlight of the meeting was the Annual Audubon Dinner. Audubon’s prestigious Audubon Medal was presented to Mickey Hickey for his record of the threat to birds, especially to the peregrine falcon, Mickey, noted for his famous off-key and at times somewhat off-color vaudeville songs given during board members’ field trips, accquised to the demand of the 700-person audience. 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 New York had such an environmentally aware person as your governor.

Allen Stokes

TAKE CARE

Three cardinal rules for ensuring the longevity of your slides are:

1. Store your slides in a cool, dry environment.
2. Project only duplicates.
3. 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 archival quality, 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. Hydrocarbon 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, polyethylene 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 Stif has a different appearance this month. Hopefully we will be back in full swing next month.