



THE STILT

BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

Vol. 14, No. 3

November 1985

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER

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

LOCAL MEETINGS, PROGRAMS, AND FIELD TRIPS

5 Nov. (Tues): BAS Planning Meeting — 7:30 pm in room 112B of the Natural Resources/Biology Building on the USU campus. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come.

9 Nov. (Sat): Winter Songbirds Field Trip — Edgewood Hall, at the south end of Providence, has perhaps the best variety of hardwoods as well as conifers in the valley. For this reason, it is home to a large number of birds at all seasons. This will also be a chance to learn to identify trees and shrubs by their form and twig growth. Leave from Logan Library at 9 am

and return shortly after noon. Carpooling available. Introduce your friends to Audubon by inviting them on this trip.

14 Nov. (Thurs): BAS Monthly Meeting — The PBS videotape "Wilderness Journal" will be shown at 7:30 pm in Room 202 of the Food and Nutrition Building on the USU campus. Narrator William Devane will take viewers on a tour of wild areas in the West, but the focus is on people and how wilderness is a part of man's history, beliefs, and literature; that is, a part of his culture. Seventeen people with differing views on wilderness are interviewed on the program, and Edward Abbey, Barry Lopez, and Wallace Stegner accompany Devane on portions of his journey. This program should be enjoyable and thoughtprovoking for all who are concerned with wilderness protection.

20 Nov. (Wed): Education Meeting — For details about time and place, contact Nancy Warner.

25 Nov. (Mon): Library Program — At 7:00 pm at the Logan Library, the family program "Behind the Scenes at Logan Zoo" will be presented by Dale Ashcroft, who has worked at Willow Park Zoo for 7 years. He will bring live animals and tell how a zoo can complement watching animals in the wild. This is a wonderful program for children.

UPCOMING EVENTS

9 Dec. (Mon): Library Program — At 7:00 pm at the Logan Library, Barrie Gilbert will present "Brown Bears, Salmon and

Fishermen." Gilbert has spent the summer at Katmai National Park in Alaska observing brown bears at close range, to see how bears and people can share salmon within very narrow confines without harm to either. He will recount his experiences with an illustrated talk.

21 Dec. (Sat): Christmas Bird Count — For more information call Mike Tove, 753-0281.

A PAT ON THE BACK

I recently visited Tony Grove Lake on a management visit to the Logan Ranger District. I was very pleased with the nature trail guide and the new constructed trail. The professional quality brochure and quality trail construction fitted to the terrain are credits to you and your organization.

Please pass my thanks on to the members of the Bridger Land Audubon Society. I hope the Forest Service and the Audubon Society can continue cooperative efforts in the future managing of National Forest lands.

— Arthur J. Carroll
Forest Supervisor
Wasatch-Cache National
Forest

EARLY BIRD NOTES

September was a wonderful month for watching passerine migration. Richard and Jan Head, who live in the Cliffside area of Logan, reported a LEWIS WOODPECKER on a telephone pole near their home. Terry Barnes and I went to see it, but couldn't find it. However, the trip was well worth while. We saw a large flock of ROBINS and WESTERN TANAGERS. We also saw many small birds that were too far away for identification.

I went back to the same area the next day, September 20, after a heavy rainstorm. In a draw covered with chokecherry bushes, scrub maple and Russian olive trees, there were many YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLERS, ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLERS, and nine WILSON'S WARBLERS. There were also WESTERN TANAGERS and RUFOUS-SIDED TOWHEES and one WESTERN WOOD PEE-WEE.

On the flats just north of the draw I saw more sparrows than I have ever seen before. It appeared as though the field was moving. There were VESPER, CHIPPING and WHITE-CROWNED SPARROWS and DARKED JUNCOS, as well as HOUSE FINCHES, ROBINS, STARLINGS and a NORTHERN FLICKER.

On Sept. 21, John and Terry Barnes and Marilyn and Tom Jones and I went to the foothills east of Richmond. We saw at least six NASHVILLE WARBLERS, RUFOUS-SIDED TOWHEES, CHIPPING SPARROWS, WHITE-CROWNED SPARROWS, ROBINS, DARK-EYED JUNCOS, and ORANGE CROWNED WARBLERS.

Birds are coming back to feeders—JUNCO, TOWHEE, BLACK-CAPPED and MOUNTAIN CHICKADEE, HOUSE FINCH and CASSIN'S FINCH and DOWNY WOODPECKERS.

Kurt Kotter of Mendon reports he has both DOWNY and HAIRY WOODPECKERS. He also reports that GREEN-

TAILED TOWHEES are summer breeding in a draw close to their home.

Jan Young's bird identification class spotted SANDHILL CRANE Sept. 28 above Hyde Park Lane. Keith Dixon heard SANDHILL CRANE on Oct. 13.

Steve Vander Wall had a RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD in his yard in Smithfield on Oct. 13.

Kurt Williams spotted a DIPPER in Smithfield on Oct. 13, and several SHORT-EARRED OWL on Hyde Park Lane the same day.

Betty Boeker already has PINE SISKEN, GOLDFINCH and a resident GREAT HORNED OWL in her yard in West Nibley.

Mike Tove gave the highlights of the fall Hawk watch. On Sept. 20, a PEREGRIN FALCON. Sept. 23, a FERRUGINOUS HAWK. Sept. 26, an OSPREY and another PEREGRIN FALCON circled Mike and Karen Bonzoles twice at about 30 feet. Sept. 27, two OSPREY and a MERLIN.

On Sept. 21, two TOWNSEND WARBLERS and a WESTERN FLYCATCHER. Sept. 23 Mike and Scott Cheney saw a TOWNSEND WARBLER and an EASTERN KINGBIRD. On Sept. 27, the high count day of the hawk migration, 244 birds which included two OSPREY and one MERLIN.

Please phone in your sightings to 752-2133. They are needed to make this column more interesting.

— Alice Stewart

LIBRARY DONATION

On October 8, 1985, Nancy Warner and Charlotte Wright met with the Logan City Library Board to explain the Bridgerland Audubon Society's new policy of donating a book a month to the library, and also to donate the first book, by James MacMahon. A bookplate with the name of the BAS will be placed in each donated book, and a review will appear in *The Herald Journal*. Both adult-level and children's-level books will be donated. The list of books to be purchased this year has been completed, but anyone with ideas for next year's donations should contact Nancy Warner or Charlotte Wright.

The Logan Library Board expressed its gratitude to BAS for this donation policy.

A list of the books already donated, plus those which will be donated throughout this year, will be published in the next issue of *The Stilt*.

SEEKING NEW OFFICERS

The BAS Nominating Committee is accepting suggestions for new officer nominations. We will need to replace both president and vice-president this year. If you know someone, including yourself, who you feel could fill either of these positions, please write to BAS Nominating Committee/P.O. Box 3501/Logan, UT 84321, or call Terry Barnes at 563-3910.

ENHANCE YOUR HOLIDAY

The wonderful weather we've been having recently makes it hard to believe, but Christmas isn't far away. We have two very special activities at that time of year which we are seeking volunteers for. The first is the AVA Holly Fair, which is always fun and presents an excellent way to reach out to new areas of the community. For more information on what you can do to help at the fair, call Jan Young at 258-5445. Although the fair itself is not until December, there is a lot you could do to help before then.

The second event is the annual Christmas Bird Count on Saturday, December 21. The count is a little later than usual this year, so we may have to work a little harder to keep our total numbers up. If you would like to participate in the Christmas Bird Count, call Mike Tove at 753-0281 or Al Stokes at 752-2702, or write BAS/PO Box 3501/Logan, UT 84321.

TETON FIELD TRIP

Bugling wapiti, howling coyotes, and scampering pikas were only a few of the animals hardy field-trippers spent the weekend with in Teton National Park, Oct. 4th, 5th, and 6th. Braving cold temperatures, about 33 people ranging in age from 10 to 71 enjoyed touring a nearly-deserted Teton Park that included a tour of the Murie home in Moose, Wyoming. Despite the cool temperatures, most of the group camped out at Gros Ventre campground and kept warm in their sleeping bags with hot rocks wrapped in newspaper (suggested by trip leader Allen Stokes). Several families chose the warm comfort of Jackson's hotels rather than camping, but everyone took part in nature discovery beneath the splendor of North America's famous Teton Mountains.

Moose, antelope, bison and smaller wilderness inhabitants like pikas, chipmunks and the secretive pine marten provided a constant source of interest to both young and not-so-young. Heavy-antlered bull elk in the timbered island area of the park put on a splendid display, guarding their harem of females from rival bulls as the group looked on at a safe distance. The bull's incessant bugling, heard clearly in the cool evening, thrilled not only the Audubon group, but a handful of other park visitors as well.

The weekend was filled with excursions and hikes to areas like the Gros Ventre slide where pikas hurried along boulders left from the slide decades before. Allen Stokes described how pikas usually inhabit more vertical areas such as talus slopes, but added that they also flourish in the horizontal rock piles left by the slide.

On Sunday, the group hiked Granite Canyon and saw moose, ruffed grouse, and pine marten before having lunch. After lunch, the group departed for Logan via Gray's Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Idaho.

From Observation Hill near the refuge headquarters, everyone caught a rare look at one of the endangered species—a whooping crane. One single magnificent white whooper feeding in a field along with several sandhill cranes reminded everyone that wildlife is indeed a treasure to be protected and

cared for. From there, we headed for Logan feeling tired, yet well-rewarded for a wonderful field trip which crossed three states and hundreds of fascinating paths.

— John J. Wise

IMPORTANT NEW BOOK

Keith Dixon informed me that the USU Bookstore will soon be carrying a new book published by the Utah Museum of Natural History. UTAH BIRD: A REVISED CHECKLIST, by William H. Behle, Ella D. Sorensen and Clayton M. White, includes chapters on provisional species, unverified species, non-native introduced species, suspected misidentifications, and an index to common names, in addition to the annotated main list of Utah birds. Keith has a copy of the book, if you'd like a sneak preview before you buy your copy from the bookstore.

WILDLIFE REPORT AVAILABLE

The Audubon Wildlife Report 1985, a new publication from the National Audubon Society, traces the history of 20th century wildlife management and discusses its role in protecting our wildlife resources. A thorough reference to the nation's major wildlife management programs, the 671-page book examines the history, legislation, budget, current trends, issues and responsibilities of such agencies as the Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service and the Forest Service.

The first edition in an annual series, the Audubon Wildlife Report 1985 includes authoritative accounts on federal migratory bird management, animal damage control, endangered species management, wetlands preservation, marine mammal protection and many more subjects. Twelve chapters are devoted to individual species such as the grizzly bear, California condor, bald eagle, desert bighorn and green pitcher plant.

Diligently researched and authoritatively written, the report will be welcomed by Auduboners with a serious and active commitment to wildlife conservation.

To order, send \$16.50 (make checks payable to National Audubon Society) to Audubon Wildlife Report, National Audubon Society, 950 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022.

BIRD WATCHERS—FOOLS OR FOOLED?

On Monday, October 14, just before noon I was working in my garden. On looking up, there high in the sky to the West was a large flock of soaring birds. As I dashed for my binocs, thoughts passed through my mind. Too late for pelicans surely; and ten days ago we had seen the last small group of sandhill cranes plus one whooper at Gray's Lake Refuge. I quickly got the flock into focus after dashing back into the open. My gosh! There were some bright pinkish-red birds soaring in the flock of white birds. Egads! Is this a stray flock of flamingoes or roseate spoonbills? Can't be! Better take a closer look. Only then did I see that this was 50 or so colored balloons just released on the university campus and floating slowly upwards. Shucks! What a chance for a real birding scoop. Fun while it lasted anyway.

— Allen Stokes

The Bridgerland Audubon Society meets the second Thursday of each month, October through May, in Room 202 in the USU Food and Nutrition Building at 7th North and 12th East.

President	Chuck Warner, 752-7345
Vice-President	Bruce Pendery, 753-1628
Secretary	
Treasurer	Betty Boeker, 752-8092
Conservation	Steve Flint
Education	Nancy Warner, 752-7345
Membership	Allen Stokes, 752-2702
Field Trips	Allen Stokes, 752-2702
Newsletter	Charlotte Wright, 753-8072
Circulation	Liz Keller, 753-3294
Publicity	
Hospitality	Alice Stewart
Board of Directors	Wendell Anderson, 752-1827
	Terry Barnes, 563-3910
	Jim Gessaman, 753-1195
	Peter Landres, 752-7692
	John Barnes, 563-3910

Membership in the Bridgerland Audubon Society includes a subscription to *The Stilt*, as well as to *Audubon* magazine.

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Bridgerland Audubon Society
P.O. Box 3501
Logan, Utah 84321

National Audubon Society

CHAPTER

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

How Do I Join?

(We thought you would never ask.) Just complete the following application and enclose a check for the amount for the appropriate type of membership. Send it to:

BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY
P.O. Box 3501
Logan, Utah 84321

Check membership category desired.

- Individual / \$30 (H)
- Family / \$38 (J)
- Student / \$18 (K)
- Senior Citizen Individual / \$21 (N)
- Senior Citizen Family / \$23 (P)
- Please bill me Check enclosed

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