

# THE STILT

BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

Vol. 14, No. 5

January 1986

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### 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	

11 Jan. (Sat): Sierra Club Ski and Soak – At Crystal Hot Springs. Call Sierra Club for details.

21 Jan. (Tues): Conservation Committee Meeting – 7:30 pm in Room 112B of the Natural Resources/Biology Building on the USU campus. We will determine directions to take based on people's interests. Local land use, BLM wilderness, water projects, and acid rain in the Red Desert are issues some have already expressed an interest in. If you have a particular concern for a conservation issue, or if you wish to see Audubon's stand on these issues strengthened, please come to this meeting and let your feelings be known.

25 Jan. (Sat): Sierra Club Full Moon Ski – Overnight trip. Stay in a Yurt and ski under a full moon. Call Sierra Club for details.

## LOCAL EVENTS

7 Jan. (Tues): BAS Monthly Planning Meeting – 7:00 pm in Room 112B of the Natural Resources/Biology Building on the USU campus. This is one week later than usual, because of the vacation schedule. ALL ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.

9 Jan. (Thurs): BAS Monthly Meeting – 7:30 pm in Room 202 of the Food and Nutrition Building on the USU campus. Dr. Paul Mohai of the USU Forestry Department will speak on "American Concern for the Environment."

## UPCOMING EVENTS

4 Feb. (Tues): BAS Annual Planning Meeting – 7:00 pm in room 112B of the Natural Resources/Biology Building on the USU campus. Topics for discussion will be: major projects, changes in direction, budget, and concerns of membership. If you feel there is something else which should be discussed, please call Chuck Warner (750-1346) or drop a message to BAS/ PO Box 3501/ Logan, UT 84321, at least one week before the meeting. EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ATTEND THIS MEETING.



6 Feb. (Thurs): Avalanche Forecasting — Sierra Club event. Learn how to avoid trouble in the backcountry by understanding how avalanches occur. 7:00 pm in the Student Center (room 347) on USU campus.

8 Feb. (Sat): Avalanche Workshop — Sierra Club event. Practice with Peeps finders, learn rescue and avalanche avoidance techniques. Call Sierra Club for more information.

15-17 Feb. (Sat - Mon): Ski Craters of the Moon — Sierra Club event. Overnight camping trip to a great skiing area. Call Sierra Club for more information.

## BALD EAGLE CONFERENCE

February 14-16, 1986, the Seventh Annual Bald Eagle Conference will be held in Klamath Falls, Oregon. This event is a joint effort of the Klamath Basin Audubon Society, National Audubon Society, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The conference is held to coincide with the presence of wintering eagles and waterfowl in the Basin, so that participants may enjoy these magnificent birds. For registration information, write to: Katie Ardt, Registration/ 4647 Miller Island Road/ Klamath Falls, Oregon 97603.

## UTAH MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY PRESENTS . . .

The Wasatch Front is the geographic backbone of Utah. It serves as a boundary between three major physiographic provinces; the Great Basin, the Colorado Plateau, and the Rocky Mountains. Providing a dramatic backdrop for 85% of Utah's population, the Wasatch Front is a unique landscape to urban centers. We are experiencing growth. There are choices before us. By understanding our place within the Wasatch ecosystem we will be better prepared to make responsible decisions for the future. The winter lecture series will be Monday evenings, 7:30 pm at the Highland High School Auditorium, 2166 South 1700 East, Salt Lake City. Cost is \$3.00 per lecture or \$20.00 for a series ticket.

Kenneth Eble will present the first lecture on January 6, "Wandering in the Wasatch." On January 13 Frank DeCourten will talk on "Geology of the Wasatch Mountains." Walter Joseph Arabasz will speak on "Earthquakes: Prospects and Perspectives" on January 20 and on January 27 Sue A Ferguson will present "Avalanche."

February 3 "Water, Water, Everywhere?" will be a discussion between Ted Arnow, Jay M. Bagley, Dorothy Harvey, Robert B. Hilbert, and Sara Michl on water issues. "Dialogue: Planning for the Future," February 10, will feature Alexis Kelner, David W. Adams, James R. Barnes, R. Thayne Robson, and Ted Wilson. February 17, "Is Utah Sahara Bound?" presented by Kimball Harper, February 19 Chris Nobel talks on "Recreation in the Wasatch" and finally on February 24 Thomas J. Lyon presents "A New Concept of Wilderness."

— from the *Utah Audubon Society News*

## REGIONAL REPORT

Gene Noder from the Rocky Mountain Regional Office of NAS was in town briefly in December to discuss with the chapter officers the ongoing project to define the relationship between NAS and its numerous chapters. The results from this study should be interesting, and we'll try to keep you informed as information becomes available to us. Gene also reported on current negotiations for new waterfowl refuges in Utah. He warned us that negotiations are entering a tricky stage, but felt that things look promising. We will let you know what actions you can take in the future to ensure the establishment of these much-needed refuges.

— *Chuck Warner*

## AUDUBON YOUTH CLUB

Audubon Youth Club classrooms took to the streets on Friday, December 13 for the first Bridgerland Audubon Mini Christmas Bird Count. Over 80 kids from Edith Bowen, Adams and River Heights Elementary schools counted 24 species of birds within a two hour period as they traversed their neighborhoods in groups led by Audubon volunteers. Some of the better bird viewing was done at the homes of Alice Lyndahl and Allen Stokes in Logan and Alice Stewart in River Heights, where bird feeders attract a variety of birds. Watching birds at the feeders also provided the young clubbers a chance to warm up, since temperatures were well below freezing on the day of the count. Residential streets, parks, canals and the USU campus were also included in the census by the beginning birders. Evening grosbeaks, pine siskins, chickadees, juncos and flickers were seen by groups from all three schools, and a few fortunate participants got a look at a red-tailed hawk, northern shrike, snipe, rufous-sided towhee and red-breasted nuthatch as well. River Heights Elementary counted more species (21) than either Adams (14) or Edith Bowen (15). The results from the count will be sent into the National Audubon office to be recorded along with other Youth Club Mini Count results from around the country.

Thanks to Linda Bettinger, Dorothy Dobson and John Krusi—teachers at River Heights, Edith Bowen and Adams—and Audubon volunteers Terry Barnes, Eric Hansen, Peter Landres, John Wise, Eric Zurcher, Steve Vander Wall, Kevin Connors, Allen Stokes, Alice Lyndahl and Alice Stewart.

— *Nancy Warner*

## NEW ENVIRONMENTAL NEWSPAPER

*Northcountry Journal* has sprouted up this year as "Wisconsin's Environmental Newspaper" covering regional issues ranging from wildlife to mining to pesticides. The new 12-page monthly costs \$19 for one year. To subscribe or find out more, write *Northcountry Journal*, R-3, Box 494, Poynette, WI 53955 (608/635-2705).

A special thanks to Charles Ashurst for his generous contribution to BAS. We will try to make wise use of the donation.



## WELCOME TO NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

**NEW:** Richard Campanella, Helen Dangerfield, Madelle and Chris Friess, Ron Orton, Julie Robinson, Robert and Betty Taylor, Robert Warren, Wayne Wurtsbaugh, Drew Smith, R.G. Weiser, Del Darby.

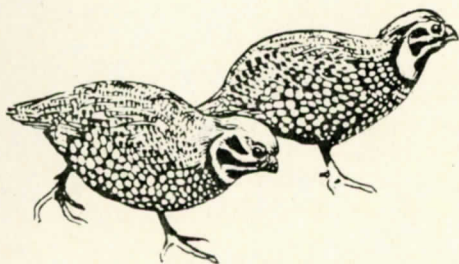
**RENEW:** Leroy Beasley, Marion Cherry, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis A. Civile, Kevin Connors, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Gordon, Jeff and Janlyn Gosse, John Kadlec, John Kirkley, Jon Landeen, Gary and Naomi McKean, Richard Muelher, June Neville, Mr. and Mrs. John L. Pearce, Marsha Swartzfager, Inez Voris, M. Coburn Williams, James L. Woodson, Thomas Fratt, Harriette Lanner, Ronald Squibb, and Hillyard Low-Anderson (corporation).

We hope you enjoy being a part of Audubon. We look forward to making use of your talents.

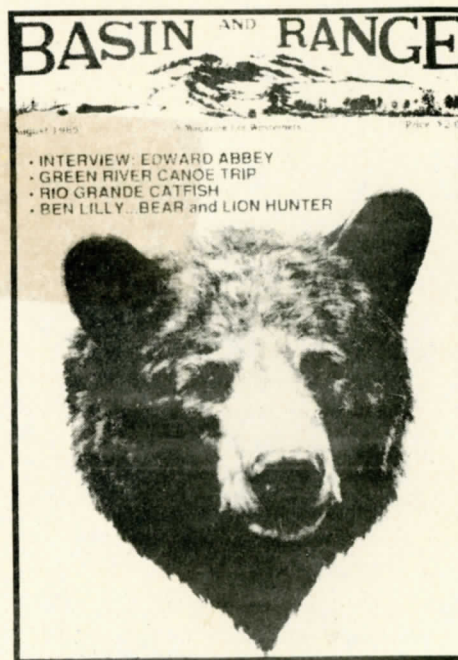
## WINTER BIRDING

December's snow cover has brought lots of movement in our local birds. Lots of fun things are being seen throughout Cache Valley. Allen Stokes reported seeing three flickers acting very strangely recently. He could not figure out what they were up to until he got closer and saw the pygmy owl which they were mobbing. Pygmy owls can hide so easily because of their tiny size and coloring. Al probably would have walked right by this one except for the attention called to it by the flickers. Allen also reported seeing a steller's jay in Benson. It is not unusual to see steller's jay along the benches this time of the year, but really unusual to see one out in the valley so far from the mountains. Kevin Connors saw four redpolls in the Natural Resources Building Courtyard recently on the USU campus. John Barnes saw seven brown creepers in Smithfield Canyon in two bunches. He also saw a hermit thrush alongside Summit Creek, a late siting for this bird. Allen Stokes was up at the golf course and saw a covey of ten chuckars. He also saw eight snipe in the canal near the golf course, an unusual number. John Barnes saw 18 pine grosbeaks in Smithfield Cemetery and about 12 redbreasted nuthatches between the cemetery and Mack Park. Richard Head has already had rosy finches at his feeder. Jeff Smith saw a palm warbler this month in Smithfield. He describes this warbler as looking like a sparrow and wagging its tail. Keep your eyes out. There are lots of things happening. Please let us know of any special sightings so we can share them with others.

— Terry Barnes



## WELCOME BASIN AND RANGE



The Southwest can welcome a new outdoors sports magazine called *Basin and Range*, which takes a conservation-minded approach to recreation. The monthly issues include a variety of photo features, interviews, drawings and book reviews, as well as stories and articles. A one-year subscription costs \$16, while two years is \$30. Write to Basin and Range Publications, P.O. Bin 1448, Silver City, NM 88062, or call 505/388-4718 for subscriptions or information.

## BIRD WATCHER'S MAGAZINE

Did you know that a couple of college students—Dave Fischer (BYU) and Mike Tove (USU)—discovered some remarkable gulls savoring the pleasures of the Provo and Salt Lake garbage dumps? They added one new species to the Utah list—glaucous-winged—and found other rare ones including mew and Thayers. Do you wonder about the status of nesting hawks or spreading species like cattle egrets and great-tailed grackles? Do you like to keep track of bird distribution, and the ups and downs of various special species?

If so, consider subscribing to *American Birds*, the *Newsweek* of bird watching. *American Birds* publishes four seasonal issues with summaries by geographical regions for summer, fall, winter and spring, plus a giant Christmas Count report issue.

The magazine also has articles on bird identification and places to go bird watching. A recent article on identification of peep sandpipers drew rave reviews from experienced Denver-area birders.

To subscribe, send \$25 to American Birds, National Audubon Society, 950 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10022.

— copied from *Utah Audubon Society News*

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.

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

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Bridgerland Audubon Society  
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**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  
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