



THE STILT

BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

Vol. 16, No.2

October 1987

MEETING CALENDAR

Thursday, October 8: General BAS Monthly Meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the Logan Library meeting room, 255 North Main Street. The speaker for the evening will be Bud Phelps of Ducks Unlimited.

Wednesday, October 14: BAS Planning Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m. at the Logan Library, 255 North Main Street.

FIELD TRIP CALENDAR

Friday-Saturday, October 3-4: Elk Bugling in the Tetons. Camp for two nights at the Gros Ventre campground within Teton National Park to observe elk and hear their thrilling bugling at dusk. See pronghorn and bison at close range and explore off-the-beaten-track places. Groups will leave as early Friday afternoon as possible, and return Sunday afternoon. Call Al Stokes at 752-2702 for details on transportation.

Saturday, October 17: "How to Start Feeding Birds." Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Alice Lindahl's home at 730 Hillcrest Avenue in Logan; trip will conclude by noon. Alice will tell about bird feeders and appropriate food for birds, give tips on landscaping to make a home more attractive for birds and take the group to see several nearby homes that have successful feeding programs. Participants will be given the full-color booklet, "Feeding Utah's Birds." Bring binoculars.

Saturday, October 31: Hike to Wind Caves. Meet at 1:00 p.m. at the rest area just south of the Logan Golf Course on Highway 89; return by 5:00 p.m. This is an easy one-hour climb on a good trail through mountain maple and up warm, grassy, south-facing slopes to the spectacular Wind Caves. These and other nearby caves are often wintering dens for porcupine and other small mammals. Who knows, we might even find a witch or two, and certainly some spiders wintering in the caves. This is a fine family outing. Bring some friends to introduce them to Audubon and the interesting field trips we enjoy. Bring a day pack to hold extra warm clothing and a snack to enjoy on the top. Carpooling is available and all are welcome. Al Stokes will be the trip leader; call him at 752-2702 if the weather looks doubtful. There is rarely any snow on south-facing slopes at this time of year.

SEVENTEEN SYLLABLES

White-breasted nuthatch
 Clinging to a rock, head down
 Living life a-tilt

— Nimsy Poodle

COURSE LIST AVAILABLE

WingTips, a journal of ornithology, has prepared a comprehensive list of US colleges that offer courses in ornithology, animal behavior, and/or biology field courses. Course levels (undergraduate/graduate) and community colleges are indicated. Part I includes states alphabetically from Alabama through New Mexico, and Part II covers New York through Wyoming. Each part costs \$3.00. To order, contact *WingTips*, PO Box 226, Lansing, NY 14882.

— *BioScience* 37, No. 8/Jill Smith

CACHE VALLEY RECYCLING PROJECT

The Cache Valley Recycling Project, a combined effort by the Bridgerland Audubon Society and the Cache Group Sierra Club, has been formed in our community to coordinate the recycling of materials in all of these categories:



We are assembling a brochure for distribution in Cache Valley within the next few weeks. It will describe the types of materials that can be recycled, explain how to prepare them for recycling, and identify as many specific collection sites as possible.

If your business or other organization collects or processes any recyclable materials, and you would like to be mentioned in this brochure, please call one of the following numbers: 753-5568, 753-8672 or 753-3446.

Note that this effort constitutes no competition to BAS' ongoing aluminum can recycling. The brochure will list BAS as the organization dealing with aluminum cans, and will identify various locations to deposit cans.

— Dianne Browning

JOURNAL ENTRY: AUGUST 16, 1971

This afternoon we swam in Buffalo Springs with two tourists and a 15" turtle, all of us keeping eyes open for the reported small crock thereabouts. After four weeks of unrelenting red dust, the tepid, algae'd water was irresistible. We like Samburu Game Reserve. It's just north of the Equator and 50 miles beyond the end of paved Kenya, so sparsely touristed. Our tent is set up under a canopy of acacias, and our meals are attended by dwarf ravens, groaning go-away birds, black and white hornbills, mostly-yellow-but-unidentified weaverbirds and superb starlings. If the U.S. had to import starlings, why couldn't they have chosen Africa's amazing ones? These are

metallic purple/turquoise with rufous breasts . . . quite audacious. This morning eight vervet monkeys joined us for breakfast. J. remembered the chaos they caused in Tanzania when they unzipped our tent and trashed the place, so started yelling at these to get lost. They scampered to the trees, and in response to J.'s arm-flailings, they retaliated by defecating in their hands and throwing it at him. I thought it hilarious, and deserved, and thus was assigned to clean the missiles from the tent, boxes and table.

How I love the African nights. An hour ago I was reading Steinbeck by the campfire, the others already asleep, when an elegant spotted genet appeared out of the shadows. He was much like our ringtail cat. He eyed me from a distance, then moved to within two feet of me for several minutes, remaining even when I spoke softly to him. A half-hour later he left, and a white-tailed mongoose made an appearance for a couple of minutes. Lord, but it was magic and wondrous.

— Kit Flannery

CONGRESSMAN'S RESPONSE

In August I wrote the Idaho Congressional Delegation advocating wilderness designation for the Mt. Naomi North and Cache Crest wilderness study areas. The response I received from Representative Larry E. Craig (R-1st District) is instructive, since I believe it illustrates the oversimplified, reductionist view many opponents of increased wilderness share. The following paragraph, quoted verbatim from Representative Craig's letter, contains the meat of his feelings.

"I believe it is essential we continue to search for the best policies to utilize our public lands in Idaho, and I will keep your comments in mind as debate continues on the wilderness issue. *At the same time, I hope you will remember the great restrictions a wilderness designation places on the land: no roads, no trails and no motorized vehicles. As a result, the U.S. Forest Service estimates, only about 4 percent of those people who recreate outdoors do so in wilderness areas.*" [Emphasis added]

Craig and many of those who share his feelings see wilderness as a "waste" of land since he feels it benefits only a minuscule portion of the population. What Craig fails to understand is that wilderness has benefits extending far beyond the enjoyment of the "4 percent of those people who recreate outdoors." He refuses to accept or fails to understand the role of wilderness in preserving ecological diversity, protecting watersheds and water sources and supporting local economies (how long would "The Hunt" survive without wilderness to provide big game habitat? What would happen to bang and twang industries without "The Hunt" to support them?).

In 1930, Bob Marshall asserted that "there is just one hope of repulsing the tyrannical ambition of civilization to conquer every niche on the whole earth. That hope is the organization of spirited people who will fight for the freedom of the wilderness." Those "spirited people" are us. Please write the Idaho congressional delegation (Senators McClure [R] and Symms [R], U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510; Representatives Craig [R] and Stallings [D], U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515, and Governor Andrus (Statehouse, Boise, ID 83720).

—TJG

GLOBESCOPE IDAHO

BAS members have been invited to an assembly of people from business, education, science, government, public service organizations and the private sector who will meet to discuss critical long-term global trends and develop action plans for a sustainable future. This fifth in a series of Globescopes held throughout the United States will broaden the growing network of citizens, government and national organizations working cooperatively toward sustainable development. Recognizing that there are no simple solutions, Globescope promotes the conviction that dialogue, consensus and responsible action are the most effective ways to solve long-term problems.

The theme of the five-day (October 7 - October 11) Globescope Idaho is "Communication for a Sustainable Future." The assembly will highlight the role of media, film and the arts in educating and motivating large audiences on issues of critical importance including population (concerns about health, family planning, urban/rural planning and food), resources (concerns about diminishing natural resources), development (concerns about economic sustainability) and the environment (concerns about environmental degradation). The conference will feature an impressive list of speakers conducting information, focus and training sessions. Registration for the 5-day conference is \$150. Contact Globescope Idaho, (208) 726-4030.

CANADIAN HUNT TO THREATEN "MAGIC PACK"?

In 1984, a dozen wolves made their way from the wilderness of British Columbia into Glacier National Park. Soon dubbed the "Magic Pack," these were the first wolf pack in the American West since the animal was wiped out almost 50 years ago. The remote valleys and river bottoms of the million-acre refuge and surrounding forest land is prime wolf habitat. Deer, elk, beaver and moose are plentiful, and no other wolves offer competition. Since the "Magic Pack" entered the park, it has increased to some 20 to 30 animals.

Now, however, park officials fear that a winter hunting and trapping season in British Columbia—the first such open season in 20 years—will threaten the U.S. wolves. Many of Glacier's wolves wander freely across the unfenced national border, and park officials fear they will be killed. Environmental groups on both sides of the border have protested the wolf hunt, but the British Columbia Ministry of Environment and Parks, citing an increasing wolf population and threat to ranching interests, have instituted an immediate "harvest." Canadian officials have said they would monitor the "harvest" and close the season if the numbers taken were affecting the Glacier population. Nonetheless, Glacier officials remain concerned. "We've waited 50 years for wolves to come back," said Gary Gregory, resource management specialist for the park. "We really don't want to have to wait another 50 years."

High Country News, 14 Sep 87/TJG

ENDANGERED SPECIES

Right here in Utah, beneath our noses, is an endangered species—an innocuous beast in danger of becoming extinct in the merest wink of an eye. I refer, of course, to the Genial Editor (*Editorialis genialius*). An inoffensive sort, he thrives quietly on submitted material and gurgles happily over his computer once a month. But he is in danger: under the right circumstances, *E. genialius* undergoes a unidirectional metamorphosis—an immediate and horrific confirmation of Darwinian thought—and from the dried up husk of the Genial Editor emerges a slavering, red-eyed terror known as the Emitted Editor (*D. curmudgeonalis*). The conditions known to bring on this ecdysiastic nightmare are as follows:

1. Lack of material submitted for publication in the *Stilt*.

The steps that must be taken to prevent the utter extinction of the Genial Editor and his supplanting by the Embittered Editor may be listed as follows:

1. Increase the material submitted for publication in the *Stilt*.

I know I can count on you to do your part to preserve the state of the ecology at my house. Please send me your contributions for the *Stilt* by the 15th of the month. To those of you whom I count as regular contributors, my heartfelt thanks. To the rest of you, whom no doubt I will also shortly count as contributors, my thanks as well.

—TJG

National Audubon Society
C H A P T E R
 M E M B E R S H I P A P P L I C A T I O N

HOW DO I JOIN?

Complete the following application and enclose a check for the amount for the appropriate type of membership. Send it to:

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
 Chapter Membership Data Center
 Box 2664
 Boulder, CO 80321
 Credit Bridgerland Audubon W-52

Check membership category desired.

- Introductory one year/ \$20
- Individual / \$30 (H)
- Family/ \$38 (J)
- Student/ \$18 (K)
- Senior Citizen Individual/ \$21 (N)
- Senior Citizen Family/ \$23 (P)
- Please bill me Check enclosed

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

The Bridgerland Audubon Society meets the second Thursday of each month, October through May, in the Council Room of the new Logan City Building, 255 N. Main. Meetings start at 7:30 p.m. The BAS Planning Committee meets every third Wednesday, October through May, in the Logan Library at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

- President
- Vice President
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- John Barnes, 563-3910
- John Wraith, 752-0743
- Larry Ryel, 753-8479
- Dianne Browning, 752-5946

Membership in the Bridgerland Audubon Society includes a subscription to *The Still*, as well as the *Audubon* magazine. The editor of *The Still* invites submissions of any kind, due on the 15th of each month. Send to 718 N. 200 E., Logan, UT 84321.

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

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