

ANNUAL BANQUET FEATURES BOXELDER BUG BARD

Minnesota poet and musician Bill Holm, author of a "riotously deft" book of poems, prose and music in which boxelder bugs reveal our lives to us, will provide the program at the annual banquet of Bridgerland Audubon Society the evening of April 13.

The banquet will be at the Bluebird, 19 North Main. A social hour will begin at 6:30, with dinner at 7:30. The work of nature artists in Cache Valley will be exhibited. Tickets are \$10, available April 1 at A Book Store, 130 North 100 East (752-9089), and at Trailhead Sports, 117 North Main (753-1541). Mae Coover, 752-8771, is in charge of reservations.

Holm, 45, who has seen teaching "as a way to make a dollar for reading books," recently retired from teaching English at Southwest State University in Marshall, Minn., to concentrate on writing his own books. He has been a writer in residence this winter at his alma mater, Gustavus Adolphus College.

Holm has also studied at the University of Kansas, and has taught at Hampton Institute in Virginia (where at 6'6" and of Icelandic extraction, he was asked, "What foreign country are you from?") and at Lakewood Community College in Minnesota. Since 1975, his small hometown of Minnesota has been his home base. He lives in a rickety old house with boxelder bugs, several thousand

books, a couple of pianos, a harpsichord and a clavichord. Holm has been a frequent guest on *Prairie Home Companion* with Garison Keillor and has appeared on *Good Evening* with Noah Adams.

He has been a Fulbright lecturer at the University of Iceland, hitching a ride there on a tramp steamer. He spent a year recently teaching American and British literature to graduate students at Jiao Tong University in Xi'an, the capital of Shaanshi province in central China.

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CALENDAR

Saturday, April 8. Spring birds along Mendon Road. Waterfowl, herons, sandhill cranes and many other birds. Leave at 8 a.m. from the southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot. Return by noon.

Thursday, April 13. Annual Bridgerland Audubon Society Banquet. Meet for social hour and nature art exhibit at 6:30 in The Bluebird, 19 North Main. Dinner at 7:30, with speaker Bill Holm, poet/musician re boxelder bugs. See related article on page 1.

Friday/Saturday, April 14/15. Overnight trip to Curlew National Grasslands to observe sharp-tailed and sage grouse on their courtship grounds. IPackrat dens, sage thrashers, and ecology of controlled burns to enhance wildlife. Call Al Stokes for reservations. Carpooling available. Leave as soon as possible after 3 p.m. for the two-hour trip. Return around noon Saturday.

Saturday, April 29. Shorebirds at the Amalga Barrens. Chance to see as many as 15 species of shorebirds and many other species. Snowy plover is the rare breeder there. Leave at 8 a.m. from southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot and return by noon. Dress warmly. It can be windy and cold.

Saturday/Sunday, May 6/7. Two separate canoe trips down the Bear River. An easy 15-mile paddle where we see about 60 species of birds including a stop at the large great blue nesting colony. Advance reservations required. Call Alice Lindahl, 753-7744. Leave at 7:30 a.m. from southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot or at 8 a.m. at Trenton Bridge. Return about 3 p.m. There will be a charge for those not bringing their own canoes.

Saturday, May 20. Birding the Logan Canal below First Dam. This stretch of well-wooded slopes above the canal has turned up unusual warblers. Leave at 7:30 a.m. at the intersection of 4th North and 6th East.

MEETINGS

Monday, April 10. The Conservation Committee will meet at 7:30 in room 112B, Biology and Natural Resources Building, USU campus.

Thursday, May 11. BAS monthly meeting. "The Battle of Bear River II." This month we will have an issues agenda. Alice Lindahl of People for Wise Water Planning will present a slide show to bring you up to date on the upcoming struggle to prevent the squandering of the Bear River and its tributaries. By this date, some of the skirmishes will be over, and we can only hope that the outcome will be more in the public interest than was the first Battle of Bear River. 7:30 p.m. Logan City meeting room, 255 North Main.

ANNUAL BANQUET (continued from page 1)

While Holm was in China, Sally Childs, director of the Lyric Theater in Minneapolis, created a stage version of "Boxelder Bug Variations." In the March 1989 issue of Minnesota Monthly, author William Souder writes that the "unlikely theatrical production . . . opened with a 'World Premier' in Minnesota and closed to packed houses and laudatory reviews in Minneapolis. Holm recited poems, played piano and harpsichord, sang a song or two, and took at slightly lumbering turn with the dance corps."

Holm is the recipient of a Bush Foundation Arts Fellowship, and is the author of a book of essays, *The Music of Failure* (reissued as *Prairie Days*), as well as several chapbooks and many articles and poems.

About the origin of *Boxelder Bug Variations*, Souder writes: "The book grew out of an assignment in which he asked his students to write about something ordinary. Wishing to set them an example, he chose the boxelder bug as his own subject. Despite plenty of bug lore (they're numerous and hard to kill), a large dose of whimsy, and a full measure of jovial mimicry (if some of the poems sound familiar, they're meant to), *Boxelder Bug Variations* is essentially a political and moral tract.

"Held together by a literary application of the musical principles of variation, and enlivened with ironic titles, the book concerns itself with the weightiest of matters: the infinite mysteries of beauty and death, the tragedy of war and nuclear weapons, the pain of social intolerance, the hollowness of capitalism. The terrain is subtle and occasionally grisly, but Holm is so quick on his feet you scarcely notice it."

The Boxelder Bug Prays

I want so little
For so little time,
A south window,
A wall to climb,
The smell of coffee,
A radio knob,
Nothing to eat,
Nothing to rob,
Not love, not power,
Not even a penny.
Forgive me only
For being so many.

- Bill Holm

HOTLINE NOTES

You may have noticed steam rising from the thawing fields where the warm air of spring touches down. Snow that lined the ditchbanks has collapsed into the running streams beneath, making me think winter's about gone. The red-winged blackbirds and other regular species have taken note of the changing season. Ring-billed gulls and killdeer are back, cruising the moist pastures. Canada geese by the hundreds also feed in the newly thawed fields, and one pair of sandhill cranes was back in Benson as early as March 11.

Other regulars coming out with the sun include robins and all the feeder birds. The goldfinches seem a bit more gold though, and cassin's and house finches are brighter than they were in February. A small flock of cedar waxwings stayed at my mountain ash for a few days in March, but has since left. The only uncommon birds to report are a few pair of wood ducks which can be spotted in the marshy area about a block east of the 7-Eleven store on 700 South and Main Street.

If you need information on what's new in the valley, or if you have a report to make, let me know at 753-1893. Happy birding.

- Scott D. Cheney

THE GRAY PARTRIDGE IN CACHE

(When Tom and I found a gray partridge dead on 10th North in Logan, we wondered what it was doing there in early March. Sally Jackson provided the following information. Sally is working on a master's degree in wildlife science, studying songbirds and uses of riparian habitats in Yellowstone Park. — Pat)

The gray partridge (*Perdix perdix*), also called the Hungarian partridge, is one of several birds introduced to North America from Eurasia for hunting. Although the autumn haunts of this species in Cache Valley are well known by hunters, secretive habits make it a less common check-off on bird-watchers lists. Apparently the gray partridge was quite abundant in the valley in the 1930s, then less numerous, and now some say that the population is increasing again.

From studies of the gray partridge in South Dakota and elsewhere, we know that this bird uses a variety of pasture types during the year. During the winter, for example, gray partridges move in coveys and prefer to feed in unplowed crop stubble. In the spring, coveys disperse as pairs form, and nests are established in roadside vegetation, fencerows, and shelter-belts. At his time the birds feed in a variety of areas, especially in idle pastures and among small grain crops. During the late summer and fall they form coveys again and prefer

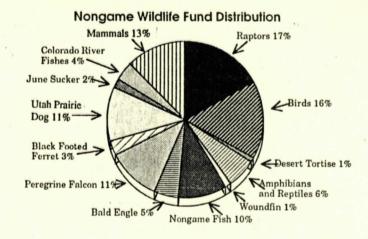
unplowed stubble. Severe winters may cause the coveys to use pastures where seeds protrude above the snow even so, their numbers probably suffer when snowfall is heavy.

This species seems to have little competitive effect on other similar species in the valley. It fits in well in Cache Valley because of the extensive pastures and fields where it has access to diverse corps and cover for nesting. If you go looking for gray partridges, look for a plump gray grouse-like bird with rusty outer tail feathers, a rusty-orange face, and a brown lower chest. Males and females are similar in appearance. Don't be surprised if a covey takes off in a noisy whirring burst of flight when you come too close; this element of surprise is a particularly effective way to deter predators.

- Sally Graves Jackson

SUPPORT NONGAME WILDLIFE

Checking the box on your state income tax form can be your way of "Doing Something Wild" for Utah's nongame wildlife. All donations are tax deductible for the next year. An explanation of the nongame tax checkoff appears in the instruction booklet of your tax form. If you do not receive a tax refund, you may still help by sending a check to the Nongame Wildlife Fund, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, 1596 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84116.



MUSICAL CONDORS?

A former Big Horn resident, Dave Clendenen, is working with the condor program. Andean condors are being raised and will be released in January in the former California condor range. If they survive, they will be recaptured and the California condor release program undertaken. Dave is busy building trails, blinds and the "Condorminium" where the juvenile birds are being raised.

from Big Horn Audubon Notes Sheridan, Wyoming

WILDERNESS

SWAN TRANSPLANT PROMISING

A recent transplant of trumpeter swans to Wyoming's Star Valley appears to have succeeded in drawing other migrating swans to the excellent, but unoccupied, winter habitat in the area.

Biologists hope that this and similar transplants will result in establishment of new wintering areas for the species. This would reduce the chances that a catastrophic event on one of the few crowded wintering areas currently in use would seriously jeopardize the survival of the Rocky Mountain population of trumpeter swans.

Of the 1,750 swans in the Rocky Mountain population, 500 winter along the Henry's Fork River in Eastern Idaho. At least 50 have died so far this winter when extreme cold froze the river and its tributaries. The birds were not able to forage on aquatic plants, their sole source of food in the winter. The prolonged stress on the surviving birds may yet affect survival of the trumpeters during spring migration, and the succes of their subsequent reproduction.

The possibility of this type of threat to the trumpeters has been recognized and a program begun to establish new wintering areas.

Eleven swans were released on farm ponds in the Star Valley near Afton last summer and fall. The transplant appears to have worked. So far, at least 27 migrating birds have joined the transplanted birds.

Monitoring shows the birds to be in excellent condition. Dave Lockman, wildlife biologist with Wyoming Game and Fish, attributes this to the availability of many small areas of open water and abundant food, especially near the warm springs which feed many of the creeks in the area.

"It is our task, in our time and in our generation, to hand down undiminished to those who come after us, the natural wealth and beauty which is ours."

Andean condens are being

John F. Kennedy

Hopefully the birds wintering in the area will have good reproductive success, and be back next year with their young. This would help establish traditional use of the area during winter which would be passed on to future generations of swans.

It is felt that the future of the trumpeter swans of the Rocky Mountains more than ever, now depends on the success of the range expansion effort.

— WY Game and Fish news release

UTAH AUDUBON COUNCIL SUPPORTS OWENS WILDERNESS BILL

The Utah Audubon Council discussed their position on wilderness legislation during the meeting held March 4-5.

There will be two bills submitted to the House of Representatives this year. Wayne Owens will submit his bill calling for some five million acres of Bureau of Land Management land. Jim Hansen will probably submit one for about 1.9 million acres. These compare with the 3.9 acres that the Utah Wilderness Association felt was a realistic amount to request, and with the 3.2 million acres that BLM has identified as qualifying for wilderness.

We should think of our resources not as having been left to us by our parents, but as having been loaned to us by our children.

Kenyan Proverb

While some of the council felt that Owens' bill was unrealistic, it was decided they should indicate to Owens support of his bill. At the same time, the council agreed to write Jim Hansen to thank him for his success in getting the Forest Service wilderness bill passed, for his work on the Utah Lake Wildlife Refuge and for his ongoing interest in wilderness legislation.

UAC will also write to the Utah Wilderness Association thanking it for its tireless work in identifying potential wilderness lands and educating the Utah public and congressional delegation about this. The council will encourage UWA to support the Owens bill and to help win support for it within Utah.

The four Audubon chapters in Utah will jointly request National Audubon to support the Utah Wilderness Bill.

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NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY 1989 CONVENTION

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- Join fellow Auduboners to help define our mission for the 1990's.
- Search for the elusive Spotted Owl, Elegant Trogon and Montezuma Quail.

Write today for a brochure with all the details!

Audubon Convention 4150 Darley Ave., #5 Boulder, CO 80303

WEEKEND WITH EXPERTS NEAR JOY

7th Annual Basin and Range Seminar Utah Audubon Society

Today, the Utah Audubon Society announces the scheduling of the seventh annual Basin and Range Seminar for May 20 through 21, 1989. The Seminar is a weekend of classes taught by experts in various fields held in the Basin and Range geographical province in western Utah. The location chosen this year is near Joy, Utah, approximately 30 miles northwest of Delta. The class subjects for the three sessions, held Saturday morning and afternoon and Sunday morning, include birds and birding, geology, raptor ecology, photography, desert ecology, drawing, insects and archaeology. The Saturday session is topped off with a potluck dinner, the Audubon Society providing hamburgers and drinks and attendees providing side dishes and desserts. Class size is limited so early registration is encouraged.

For further information or an application form, contact: Utah Audubon Society, P.O. Box 9419, Salt Lake City, UT 84109; Jeanne Le Ber 532-7384, Terry Way 486-2150.

EXPLORE THE SOUTH PLATTE IN JULY

Denver Audubon Society invites you to join the Institute of River Ecology, now in its third year. Experience the beauty, ecological diversity, and colorful history of the South Platte, one of Colorado's major rivers. Consider the management of Rocky Mountain water resources, the use of bottomland habitat by livestock, protection of wildlife, birds, and fisheries, and many other issues. Learn about the laws and regulations that shape resource management policies. Use advanced sampling techniques to discover how many fish inhabit secluded stretches of the river. Observe birds in streamside habitats of the mountains and plains. Join us, and share these experiences with experts on all sides of the issues. This is an exciting learning opportunity that you will remember for many years to come.

The program goes from Sunday, July 9, to Friday, July 14. Participants must be 18 or older. Cost of \$350 covers instruction, transportation, lodging (dormitory style), and meals. University credit is available from Colorado State University (two semester hours, \$57).

Contact:

Susan Q. Foster, Director Institute of River Ecology c/o Thorne Ecological Institute 5370 Manhattan Circle, #104 Boulder, Colorado 80303 (303) 499-3647

CANOE THE MISSOURI RIVER IN CENTRAL MONTANA

The Audubon Wildlife Fund of Montana presents "The Montana Centennial Missouri River Float Trip," organized under the auspices of the Montana Audubon Council. From June 26 to July 1, you can explore 110 miles of the Missouri. Craig Madsen and the Montana River Outfitters of Great Falls, Montana, provide all equipment, tents, food, canoes and basic training.

The trip includes camping at the campsites Lewis and Clark used in 1805; exploring long abandoned homesteads, graffiti from steamboat crews, rifle pits from the Nez Perce wars and Indian pictographs; observing and learning about area wildlife, from yellow warblers, soft-shelled turtles and paddlefish, to mountain lions and elk; and 20 hours of educational talks given by qualified instructors about the area and natural history of the river.

The cost is \$700, with a deposit of \$50 due by May 15. The trip is limited to 25 participants over 18 years of age.

Contact: Tommie Clark, 231 Pine Needle Land, Bigfork, Montana 59911; (406) 837-6615.

GLACIER INSTITUTE OFFERS MANY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

If you're inclined to go north for the summer, you can take advantage of a multitude of short courses taught in Glacier National Park.

The Glacier Institute is an independent, non-profit corporation cooperating with Flathead Valley Community College to offer one day or weekend courses in Glacier National Park on the Canadian border in northwestern Montana.

A small sampling of the course titles follows: Glacier's Grizzlies, June 24-25 and July 29-30; Roadside Geology of Glacier, June 30-July 2; People of the Mountain World (Blackfeet Indians and others), July 10-12; Alpine Wildflowers, July 15-16; After the Fires, July 24-26; Beginning Storytelling, July 23; Outdoor Sketching, July 30; Bears in Indian Myth and Ritual, Aug. 5; Rivers of Ice, Aug 5-6; Watercolor in Glacier, July 30-Aug. 1.

Contact:

The Glacier Institute P.O. Box 1457A Kalispell, Montana 52203 (406) 752-5222.

REPORT FROM TRINIDAD

Sunrises, Carnivals and Feathers

We live in St. Augustine on a north-south ridge of Trinidad's Northern Range with parallel ridges to the east and west. This geography makes for interesting weather. which in turn, means that our verandah provides front row seating for a nearly non-stop technicolor pageant. If there were two sunrises in a row that were similar, the second fell on one of the rare mornings that David slept in; as to rainbows, we've seen more than most people see in a lifetime. But as Hitchcock would say, "the birds. the birds!" Individually and collectively, they rival the tropical sky in color and brilliance. Since we only recently obtained the T&T bird guide at Asa Wright Nature Centre, we'd not been able to put names to feathers until now. Our avian neighbors include the tropical mockingbird. ruddy ground dove, blue-gray tanager, palm tanager, yellow oriole, kiskadee, bananaquit, silver-beaked tanager, white-lined tanager, tropical kingbird, ruby topaz hummingbird, yellow-bellied elkaenia, southern bardless tyrannulet, and bare-eyed thrush. Birds that we see often but which rarely light in the yard include crested oropendola (commonly called a cornbird because of its vellow beak and tail feathers that contrast with its ebony body), short-tailed swift, cattle egret, orange-winged parrot, and black vulture. Tobago visits offer other species: greater ani, blue-crowned mot-mot (a friendly bird of iridescent blue, orange, and green), and the noisy pheasant-like cocorico that squawks too early in the morning. From our vantage point on the scuba-diving boat, we watch red-billed tropic birds, pelicans, and redfooted boobies swoop over the waves. Our "find" was the collared trogon-extremely rare and beautiful with its emerald-green head, tomato red chest, white clerical collar, and long black and white striped tail feathers.

We visited the Caroni Swamp for the sunset and sunrise versions of the flight of the scarlet ibis. Seeing thousands of these birds pass overhead has got to be the antiquarian's equivalent of a trip on the Nile. The caiman wasn't bad either. Besides the ibis there are osprey, great egret, and various herons.

Still recovering from five weeks of carnival celebrations last weekend, we opted to visit the Asa Wright Nature Centre, a Victorian cocoa-coffee-citrus plantation turned bird-lovers' paradise. Access to the center is limited as a New York agency books the entire complex from October to June for lodgers, and day hikers are held to a maximum of 40; because it was rainy on the Sunday we visited, they allowed less than a dozen day people in so we were lucky we had reserved ahead. Located at the head of the Arima Valley at 360 meters, the center is never dry. Sitting on a bench in a little glade was like visiting an aviary at the San Diego Zoo: an absolute riot of colorful little birds, including the purple honeycreeper (easy to spot with its brilliant yellow legs) and copper-rumped and tufted coquette hummers (weighing in at 2.5 grams). We hiked down to a spectacular gorge lined with ledges on which about 70 oilbirds roost during the day. This is

CONSUMER CONCERNS

apparently the most accessible colony on earth and after a short wade, one can see them quite well without causing any disturbances. The hike out was enlivened by a six-foot bushmaster (a venomous snake) on the trail poised to strike. Thank goodness our guide was alert. Viewing the birds from the elegant verandah of the Great House may be safer for future visits. Some porch-bound American visitors had a toucan in their scopes.

- David F. Lancy

(David is a member of BAS and professor at USU. Now on sabbatical in Trinidad. — Pat)

IN PURSUIT OF THE PEREGRINE

Join the Four Corners School of Outdoor Education staff and Dr. Clayton White, by foot, raft, and/or four-wheel-drive vehicle to survey the canyon country for nesting peregrine falcon. This research expedition will help the Forest Service, Park Service, and BLM better manage their lands as peregrine falcon habitat. The search will be conducted in the Dark Canyon Wilderness area and on the San Juan River. The group will work from a remote basecamp or via raft to survey areas previously identified by overflight as prime habitat. There will be less hiking on the San Juan River section, as the primary mode of travel will be by raft. The Dark Canyon section will require hikes of two to eight miles daily with a day pack.

Dates are June 2-11 on the San Juan River and June 16 to 25 in the Dark Canyon Wilderness. This program is cosponsored by the Denver Museum of Natural History, the Utah Audubon Society and BLM/USFS.

Contact: Janet Ross, Four Corners School of Outdoor Education, East Route, Monticello, Utah 84535; (801) 587-2859 from outside Utah, 1-800-525-4456.

THE PRICE WE PAY FOR GARBAGE

The United States has a throw away society. We squander more than most of the world produces. Americans produce twice as much trash (four to six pounds per person per day) as other industrial countries (Japan, Europe, 1.7 to 2.5 pounds per person per day). We go through 2.5 million plastic bottles every hour while ony recycling one percent. Packaging alone uses 13 billion pounds of plastic in a \$49 billion industry. We pay more for food packaging than to American farmers for the food. Packaging creates a third of our waste. The average person in an office discards more than 175 pounds of valuable paper a year. The United States creates 130 million tons of solid waste which costs over \$10 billion a year for disposal. Ten years ago it cost \$3 to \$4 per ton for disposal, but today it is \$40 to \$75 per ton.

The large amount of waste, some of it toxic, is filling up our landfills, or eating ground water pollution, and causing other health hazards. Trash incineration is an alternative to landfills because it reduces the trash volume by two-thirds or more and can produce energy as a byproduct. One ton of trash is equivalent to one barrel of oil. But incineration emits harmful gases and leaves a toxic ash. Some of these gases are responsible for global warming, acid rain, and can be harmful to human health. Incinerator ash is exempt from hazardous waste regulations.

A better solution to our trash is recycling. We have done it in the past. During World War II there was a large amount of recycling, especially rubber and metals. Three-fourths of the materials we send to incinerators and landfills could be recycled, including paper, glass, plastics, tires, motor oil, and batteries. It takes 17 trees to produce a ton of newspapers, of which only 12 % are recycled. Recycling aluminum saves 90-95% of the energy to produce an aluminum product from the raw material. We could close 14 nuclear power plants if we increased recycling of paper and metals by 50 %.

Americans are starting to follow the Japanese who recycle 80% of their steel cans, 80% of their aluminum products, and 66% of their glass bottles. In Japan, 95% of their glass bottles are used an average of 20 times each. Japanese students learn about resource conservation and the advantages of recycling and reuse. In recent years five states in the United States have implemented recycling programs and six more are considering them. More than 600 American cities have convenient curbside pickup of recyclable materials. In the best programs, residents separate bottles, cans, newspapers, and other materials such as plastic, in separate containers. In Charlotte, North Carolina and Logan Island, New York, over 75% of the residents participate in their city's recycling pickup program. Last year in the United States, \$700 million was paid out to recyclers for 39 billion aluminum cans.

Advantages of recycling are saving money, saving energy, and saving natural resources. Recycling saves money by avoiding the rapidly increasing waste management costs involved with landfills and incineration. In Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, it costs \$25 per ton to recycle waste, while it costs \$100 per ton to throw waste away. Tax dollars can be saved from the income from bottles, cans and newspapers, and other materials separated from trash and sold to industries. Recycling saves energy because far less energy is needed to produce an item from recycled materials than from raw materials. Recycling conserves natural resources like forests and reduces the need for mining and drilling activities that can damage wildlife habitats. Recycling can help us see the connection between individual acts and the environment. Using recycled materials also creates less air and water pollution than when raw materials are used.

In future articles there will be information on how each of us can make a difference in reducing our wastes and local places you can take recycled items.

— Doug Stark Utah Audubon Society News March 19898

CONSUMER CONCERNS

DISPOSABLE DIAPERS

Baby's First Crime?

U.S. babies dirty some 18 billion disposable diapers a year. Unlike the cotton ones mom washed and then recycled back onto baby's bottom, disposables—now used in 85 percent of all U.S. baby diapering—enter the trash stream. Roughly 75,000 metric tons of plastic that won't decompose for 500 years end up in municipal landfills.

Disposable diapers constitute 3.5 to 4.5 percent of all household solid waste. Carl Lehrburger, who designs recycling programs at the Albany, N.Y.-based Energy Answers Corp, says, "No other single consumer product—with the exception of newspapers and beverage and food containers—contributes so much." And its share is growing as adult-size disposables fill a related niche for incontinent older people, and as recycling reclaims more conventional wastes like cans and paper.

Parents pay a high premium for the disposables' convenience—an increase of \$546 to \$1,417 per child over the cost of using a commercial diaper service or home washing. Not only does landfill disposal of dirty diapers cost at least another \$300 million annual, Lehrburger argues, but it also needlessly exposes sanitation workers to diseases—including possibly polio and AIDS—from incorporated live viruses.

With almost one-third of U.S. landfills due to close in five years—and few new ones slated to open—Lehrburger says U.S. society will soon realize it has no choice but to change its diapering habits: Either return to washable diapers, or develop flushable and/or recyclable disposables.

At least one environmentally conscious diaper company has come up with a partical solution to the litter problem. TenderCare Diapers in Sedona, Arizona, is selling a chemical-free diaper that breaks down into carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen in two to five years.

SUNFLOWER SEEDS STILL AVAILABLE

Think ahead about your sunflower seed needs. House and Cassin's finches stay around all summer. Blackheaded grosbeaks are a common migrant and may nest near you. So for summer enjoyment keep feeding all summer long. That way you will be sure of enticing birds to your garden before winter sets in. Normally we do not get our regular supply of sunflower until late October. So it is good to keep a supply on hand before then. This seed keeps well.

Seed available at Sunrise Cyclery at 138 N. 100 E. and at Al Stokes' home at 1722 Saddle Hill Drive. Price is still \$15/50 pound bag.

LOGAN CANYON ROAD

Will the Logan Canyon Road Environmental Impact Statement appear this spring? We still don't know, but we can get prepared now! I have prepared a brief summary of the Conservationist's Alternative. This plan is designed to solve specific problems with minimal environmental impact, in contrast to the Agency Alternative, where the main goal is to increase the highway design speed on all except the four miles between Right Fork and Lower Twin Bridge. Call me at 752-9102 (evenings) and I will send you a copy.

Also, let UDOT know you are interested by requesting a copy of their "Agency Alternative for SR89" from: UDOT, PO Box 2747, Ogden, Utah 84404 or call UDOT at 399-5921.

Remember, the Forest Service's National Scenic Byway designation has *no effect* on highway design. Only your involvement will preserve Logan Canyon.

Sardine Canyon Road

Impact meetings will be held in Logan on April 5 and Mantua on April 6. Check the newspaper for times and places.

- Steve Flint

A CONSERVATION TIP FROM AN EX-BAG LADY

I can't stand the proliferation of grocery bags at my house. This solution works for me: I keep one of those stacking plastic beverage crates in the back of my truck (available at Freddys, etc.). I stash it into the grocery cart, fill it up, and refill it at the end of the check-out. The only store that does not require cooperation from the check-out person is Macey's. But what the heck, they all aim to please. The rectangular crates are sized a bit too big to lug heavy groceries, so I use the square ones, which are smaller.

For small purchases I carry a tote bag. In Europe, you can't go shopping without one.

- Alice Lindahl

WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT PROTEST

PWWP PROTESTS UNFAIR WATER LAWS

People for Wise Water Planning, a grassroots effort to influence the use of water for the future, has been energetically gathering information regarding the impending formation of a Water Conservancy District in Cache County. Their work has revealed a truly incredible situation in the water laws, which provide for rule by a minority of property owners, taxation of everyone, and virtually unchecked power over water by an appointed board.

On the opposite side of this page is an official petition protesting the formation of a water conservancy district. Signing this petition is your only direct course of action if you wish to affect this cause. You can talk to others, you can write to the editor, but only this paper, signed and returned, will have any legal effect on the outcome.

The law permits only property owners in the county to form or protest the water conservancy district. As written, it requires a successful protest to include 20 percent of this assessed property value in the area. To calculate that amount, it is necessary to know what property you own. You can either fill in the Land Serial Numbers on the bottom of the petition, OR put your address immediately under your printed name and leave the bottom lines blank.

Send the completed petition to: People for Wise Water Planning, PO Box 3955, Logan, Utah 84321.

For a brief explanation of the situation and the BAS position, read on.

DEMOCRACY NOT A FACTOR IN WATER LAW

What Is a Water Conservancy District?

- Water conservancy districts are formed to put water to beneficial uses; historically these have been agricultural uses, although municipal uses are becoming increasingly important.
- In multiple-county districts, 10 percent of property owners in unincorporated areas of each county (or 500 people, whichever is less), and 5 percent of the property owners in incorporated areas (or 100, whichever is less) must sign a petition to form a water conservancy district.
- When the proper number of signatures is obtained, the petition is filed in state court; if no protests occur, the district is formed.
- Forming a water conservancy district requires no review of environmental or social impact; some economic review may be required.

- In multiple-county districts, the governor appoints a board of directors; the district then has all the powers of a public or municipal corporation, including powers of condemnation and taxation (up to one-half mil).
- A water conservancy district is formed in perpetuity, and any project that the board decides to pursue is deemed a public good.

5% Can Form WCD: 20 % Required to Protest Provisions for protesting the formation of a water conservancy district exists, but protesting a district is more difficult than establishing one. A protest requires 20% of the landowners in both unincorporated and incorporated areas to sign a petition protesting formation of a water conservancy district. If enough signatures are obtained, the petition is filed with the court, which then denies formation of the district.

Avon, Mill Creek and Amalga Barrens Considered for Dams

The BRWDC has not announced specific plans for this water conservancy district. Current law requires that the petition to create a district set forth the "purpose of the contemplated improvement," but whether this calls for specific plans or only a general statement of intent is unclear. Current plans indicate dam-building projects in Avon, Mill Creek above Hardware Ranch, and the Amalga Barrens would be first on the agenda.

The motivating force behind efforts to form this water conservancy district seems to be a concern that Salt Lake City and/or Salt Lake County are preparing to "raid" the Bear River Basin water. Salt Lake City and County have announced a need for 50,000 to 100,000 acre-feet of additional water. Although there are sources of water nearer to Salt Lake City that would be cheaper to develop, practicality may have nothing to do with Salt Lake City's calculations. They could raid Bear River Basin water simply because they might need it someday, because it is currently unappropriated, and because they have the political clout to claim and develop the resource.

BAS Position

We're facing a dilemma. Although current law seems unacceptable, particularly in terms of impact analysis requirements, we don't know which is worse: having a local conservancy committee develop the water or having Salt Lake City/County develop it. Until we have more information, BAS plans to do the following:

- Work for changes in current law, especially relating to environmental impact assessment,
- Oppose formation of the proposed water conservancy district, and
- If a district is formed, try to assure that the board of directors is representative of all viewpoints.

Bruce Pendery

PAGE	OF	PAGES

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT IN AND FOR CACHE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH

IN THE MATTER OF THE ORGANIZATION) OF A WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT IN) CACHE COUNTY PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 9,) TITLE 73, UTAH CODE ANNOTATED, 1953,) AS AMENDED.	CIVIL NO	
PROTEST PE	TITION	
WHEREAS, a petition praying for conservancy district in the County circulated or has been filed with District Court, and	the establishment of of Cache, State of Utah, the Clerk of the First	a water is being Judicial
WHEREAS, the boundaries of said c tracts of land separately describe tracts of land are owned by the corporation(s) named opposite each tracts of land each have a separate a and	tract described herein, a	nd which
WHEREAS, the creation of said propo intrusion upon the sovereign power County, create an unnecessary governmental intervention into both water, and waste public resources b on public investments.	and freedom of the people tax burden, impose unnumerivate and public developments.	of Cache ecessary
NOW, THEREFORE, the undersigned i corporation(s), qualified land owne PROTEST the creation of said district the original petition praying for district.	rs in Cache County, do and PETITION the court to	hereby
(print name)	(signature)	(date)
(print name)	(signature)	(date)
(Use separate sheet(s) for add	itional names, if needed)	
(Attach property description (Use separate page(and assessed valuation.) s) if necessary)	

Note: If land serial numbers are not given, please give an address that will assist checkers in finding land parcel(s).

If Land owner is a corporation or other organization, signature must be the name of such corporation or organization by its proper officer, or in the name of the partnership by one of the partners, and the names of the other partners shall be listed

AUDUBON EDUCATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Bridgerland Audubon Education Committee has ongoing recruitment of members for an active, working committee. The basic goal of the Education Committee is to create an interdisciplinary network of educators, parents, group leaders, and interested community members to promote environmental education in Cache Valley.

Current projects include:

- Outreach programs for public schools, scout groups and other youth organizations, senior citizen groups, handicapped persons, and others.
- Creation of a Northern Utah Resource Directory for environmental education resources and materials.
- Traveling "treasure box" collections for teaching and a bird and mammal specimen collection.
- · Local nature center feasibility study.
- Environmental education summer camp/workshop scholarship program.

We welcome anyone interested in joining our committee, as well as information or volunteers for the human resource directory. Anyone who is willing to volunteer time to speak at a school or for a community group will be placed in our resource directory. For more information, please contact Karen Matsumoto-Grah at 750-3468.

Education Committee meetings are held every second and fourth Tuesday of each month, through the month of June, in the Edith Bowen Lab School Library kiva, Utah State University, Logan at 3:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

Next meeting will be held Tuesday, April 11, 1989.

HANDS-ON OWL WORKSHOP FOR KIDS

Bridgerland Audubon Education Committee and Edith Bowen Lab School is sponsoring a Tracy Aviary hands-on "Owl and Raptor Workshop" for children and their parents on Thursday, May 4, 1989. The workshop will be presented by Mark Stackhouse, Education Coordinator for Tracy Aviary, Salt Lake City. The workshop will include a lecture and hands-on activities for children, as well as live owls and hawks from the Tracy Aviary collection. The workshop be held at Edith Bowen Lab School Library at 3:30 p.m. The workshop is free and all are welcome to attend.

AUDUBON SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Bridgerland Audubon Society is offering three environmental education scholarships for interested teachers, educators, community group leaders, and/or interested individuals for 1989 summer camps and worshops. Audubon scholarships will provide up to \$350 for tuition and/or expenses for the following:

- · Audubon Camp in the West
- · Teton Science School
- Alpine Environmental Education Conference

These workshops provide excellent opportunities for "hands-on" learning about our natural environment, as well as implementation of environmental education activities in the classroom or with environmental ed groups. For applications and more information about the summer workshop programs, contact Karen Matsumoto-Grah, Education Chair, 750-3468. Deadline for application is Monday, April 24, 1989.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. Blanche E. Allred - Richmond C. Anderson - Hyrum C. Bird — Mendon Mr. Robert Blanchard — Logan Rud Bullen - Logan Mr. R. Goodwin - Logan Mr. and Mrs. A. Hudson - Preston Ms. Linnea Johnson - Logan Cadon Jorgensen - Wellsville L. Kaye - Logan Robert J. Miller, DVM - Preston Stan Olmstead - Logan Tammy Olson — Logan Daniel Owen - Logan Stacey Poulson — Logan Thomas Renner — Logan Karri A. Smith - Logan Kirk Williams - Smithfield Diana F. Wittkopf - Smithfield Mr. John Wrublic - Logan

THANKS, RENEWING MEMBERS!

Mr. P. Sutton Finch — Whitefish, Montana Mr. Thomas J. Lyon — Logan Mrs. Robert Johnston — Logan Mr. Allen S. Keller — Preston Mr. John N. Ream, Jr. — Providence Mrs. John Tautin — Laurel, Maryland Homer and Elizabeth Walker — Logan Steven Cannon — Logan Mrs. Bernard Hayes — Logan Mr. Reinhard A. Jockel — Logan Vitale — Logan Tim Vitale — Logan Mr. James L. Woodson — Logan

UTAH AUBUDON COUNCIL MARCH MEETING

Al's Report: Good Times, Good Talks

The Utah Audubon Chapter hosted this meeting of the Utah Audubon Council on March 4-5, 1989 with its president Andy White presiding. Margie Halpin arranged for our use of the very comfortable two-story building of the Utah Parks and Recreation on Rosepark Lane along the Jordan River at the north end of Salt Lake County. Attending the gathering were Diane Browning, Kathlyn Collins, Alice Lindahl, and Al Stokes from Bridgerland: John Bellmon and Jim Palmer from Wasatch: Jeanne LeBer, Susan Kuziak, Margie Halpin, Andy White, Doug Stark, Ray Smith, Cindy Cromer, June Ryburn, Lester Short, Scott and Kim Lewis, Bob Garrison and Knute Rife from Utah A.S.; and Mike Adams, Donna Peterson and Lois Clark from Timpanogos. Bob Turner, regional vicepresident of the Rocky Mt. Region, attended the entire gathering.

Saturday afternoon Margie Halpin, urban wildlife biologist for the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, told us about what she has been doing to develop the wetlands along the Jordan River just before it empties into Great Salt Lake. In recent years when the lake was high this area was largely inundated and attracted countless waterfowl. shorebirds, ibis, gulls and land birds. Cattails and bullrush made a dramatic comeback in response to this high water. Now that the lake has receded we are in danger of losing this wetlands to development and filling. So Margie has been working with the Parks & Recreation Division, the Salt Lake Waste Treatment Plant, Amoco, Conoco, L.D.S. Church and a few other private landowners to see how this area could be developed into a wetlands area protected from development and with adequate water to maintain wetland vegetation even in years of low water. She envisions this as a superb environmental education resource, perhaps turning the building that we used into a nature center. She has already gotten lots of support from these separate entities in achieving her dream.

Afterwards we drove about the area. At the north end we saw some 30 bald eagles perched in a cluster of large cottonwoods and several more eagles soaring overhead. From there we drove west of the airport close to the lakeshore to a place that Salt Lake City would like to see developed as a residential area with a marina. That would be a drastic encroachment of these little-appreciated wetlands. Finally we drove out to the old Saltair along the south shore of the lake. In the vicinity were thousands of shovelers, some green-winged teal, many gulls and yes! a Chilean Flamingo feeding on brine shrimp as though it were in its native haunts high in the Andes of Peru. An escapee from Tracy Aviary, it has done very well this winter and is now a brighter red in color than the aviary birds thanks to its rich diet of shrimp.

Following fine fellowship at a pizza restaurant we returned to the building where we had an evening of

ever-so-productive discussion. These talks resumed at 8 a.m. on Sunday and went to noon. The minutes follow. All agreed that it was a splendid time for fellowship and in addition discussing issues of importance to all four chapters.

(What follows is an abbreviated version of Al's very readable minutes. — Pat)

Minutes

Item 1: Bob Turner, regional vice president of the Rocky Mountain Region, reported on his office activity. We now have a team of specialists we can call on for help in wilderness, shorebirds, water research, education, grazing and research.

Item 2: UAC decided to support Wayne Owens' wilderness bill. (See full report under "Wilderness.")

Item 3: Margie Halpin is spearheading a move to have

Great Salt Lake designated a North American Shorebird Reserve. A shorebird survey will be made on April 22—help is requested. T-shirts with the Shorebird Netword symbol and educational materials may be used.

Ducks Unlimited will study and present a position paper about the proposed freshwater Wasatch Lake that would be formed by diking the eastern half of the lake. UAC is

considering involvement.

Ron and Larry Ryel are serving as BAS representatives

on a statewide shorebird council.

Item 4: Alice Lindahl of Logan spoke on Cache County's proposed Water Conservancy District and public protest thereof. She also reported on the 50-year plan for the state, which emphasizes building more dams and using ground water only for emergencies. USU Water Lab reverses this policy. The report is available at the state office of Utah Division of Water Resources. This agency is holding hearings around the state. There is little in the plan about water conservation.

Item 5: UAC discussed hiring a lobbyist, as in Montana, Colorado and Wyoming. Final decision to be made June 1, after fund-raising activities have been assessed. Lobbyist should be hired no later than Sept. 1 (The council was generally amazed at itself for taking this momentous step.)

Item 6: The council decided to postpone production of

new notepaper for sale until current supplies are lower.

Item 7: A guest editorial about sandhill crane hunting for the Salt Lake Tribune, written by Andy White, was endorsed by all four chapters. It was essentially opposing hunting on a philosophical basis but acknowledging that as crane numbers kept rising there might well be biological and economic reasons for crane hunts in the future.

Item 8: Mike Adams of the Timpanogas chapter urged each chapter to send a member to the executive committee meetings of the Utah Wildlife Leadership Coalition. This group consists of some 47 separate groups with heavy emphasis on hunting. Mike and John Barnes of BAS are the only Audubon representatives now. Mike suggested asking the UWLC to form a non-game committee. No further action.

Item 9: The council discussed watching the spraying for gypsy moths this summer on the eastern edge of Salt Lake City. The spray, Bt (Bacillus thuringiensis), will be toxic to all lepidoptera. We felt we should watch developments and make sure that the loss of lepidoptera is not so serious as to affect songbirds. No specific action taken.

Next Meeting: Wasatch Audubon will host the meeting to be held in late September or early October. It should be an

overnight meeting.

MEETING MINUTES

BAS PLANNING MEETING MINUTES

Feb. 22, 1989

Present: president Cynthia Kerbs, vice-president John Wraith. secretary Scott Cheney, incoming president Val Grant, incoming vice president John Mull, incoming secretary Susan Robertson; Al Stokes, field trip chairman; Alice Lindahl, People for Wise Water Planning (PWWP); Ilona Jappinen, representing Greenpeace; Diane Browning, Director.

Item 1: Ilona Jappinen requested our chapter's sponsorship of a Greenpeace-organized march against local restaurants (Burger King, Wendy's) which buy fish from companies still involved in commercial whaling.

BAS supports the concern, but not necessarily the method of demonstrating in front of local businesses who may not be aware of the issue themselves. BAS will include Greenpeace-provided educational material at our table and will consider a monthly meeting on the topic of whales or whaling.

Al Stokes will talk to John Wise, Herald Journal reporter. Val and Cynthia plan a personal visit to the managers of Burger King and Wendy's to discuss this issue.

Old Business

Item 2. The BAS Annual Banquet will be held at the Bluebird. It was agreed to write letters of appreciation to award nominees and invite only the winner (and guest) to the banquet

Item 3: Cynthia Kerbs will look into Earthnotes Co. as a

possible new supplier for recycled paper for The Stilt.

Item 4: Need for new trailguides was discussed. It was agreed that 11,000 new guides are needed, at estimated cost of \$2100-\$2200. It was agreed to get quotes from other printers and to solicit support monies from the Forest Service and the Cache County Schools. John Wraith will get another bid from printers. How to slow usage of the trailguides was discussed.

Item 5: Proposals for April and May meetings include Margie Halpin (Uban Wildlife), Greenpeace's whaling issue, a report on the water conservancy district issue by PWWP, and a report on the Bear River wetlands by someone from the USU Water Lab.

Item 6: Alice Lindahl reported that Cache Valley schools are now involved in Jack Greene's Nature Center, and that the building will remain property of the Boy Scouts. USU covers insurance, but financing for the utilities (approximately \$2000 per year) is still needed. Al Stokes mentioned that there will also be a County Conservation program with a year-round facility, to begin this summer. Although BAS feels willing to cover all or part of the utility costs, no commitment was made.

New Business

Item 1: Al Stokes distributed field trip calendars for spring 89, and encouraged members to recruit new people, as chapters lose an average of one-third of their membership annually.

Item 2: Alice Lindahl asked BAS to support PWWP with money for printing and mailing brochures. BAS will give \$250,

with an option to provide more later, if needed.

Item 3: The education committee report was given. The EC will develop a listing of local resource people by April 15.

The committee wants to form a permanent specimen collection, and must name a permanent site in order to get a permit. They proposed that Edith Bowen School be the site.

The EC asked for our sponsorship of the workshop May

4 at Edith Bowen.

The EC proposed that BAS sponsor three scholarships. two to the Audubon camps and one to the Teton Science School. It was agreed to sponsor two half-scholarships at \$600-\$800 for the Audubon camps and one half-scholarship to the Teton Science School at \$125.

Item 4: Cynthia Kerbs asked the BAS to join the Greater Yellowstone Coalition. The fee is \$25. It was agreed to

Item 5: John Mull will draft the BAS reply to the Strategic Plan of Utah Natural Resources from the Utah Wildlife Resources Dept.

BAS PLANNING MEETING March 15, 1989

Present: president Val Grant, vice-president John Mull, secretary Susan Robertson, treasurer Betty Boeker, director Larry Ryel, education committee chair Karen Matsumoto-Grah, field trips chair Al Stokes.

Old Business

Item 1: Karen reported on the (Jack Greene) Nature Center, noting that the Boy Scouts are not certain that they want use of the building itself as a nature center and that the building and grounds have serious drawbacks. negotiations on this seem to have stalled, we resolved to make no BAS commitment until Jack Greene or the Cache schools decide their plans.

Item 2: John Mull sent the BAS response form to the

Utah Wildlife Dept. "Strategic Plan."

Item 3: It was agreed to pay up to \$300 to help send one person to the NAS bienniel meeting in September in Tucson.

Item 4: The education committee will design an application form for scholarships to Audubon camps and the Teton Science School, and will review applications and submit candidate recommendations to the planning committee for

approval.

Item 5: The treasurer's report was submitted. BAS is in acceptable shape, financially, having an excess of receipts over disbursements in the past three years of approximately \$2000. The matter of proper IRS status for BAS was of some concern, as our budget is now large enough to require a tax return. Sue Robertson will research the tax issue and report to the planning committee.

New Business

Item 1: Bruce Allsop has received the Allen W. Stokes Conservation award for this year. Letters of appreciation have been sent to all the nominees.

Item 2: Al Stokes reported on the Utah Audubon Council meeting. (See separate report and minutes.) The proposed lobbyist caused the most discussion, as this would involve about \$2000 per year from BAS, and enough must be raised by June 1, 1989, to demonstrate the project's feasibility. It was agreed to support UAC's decisions regarding Wayne Owens' wilderness bill and opposition to the crane hunt, and to support the hiring of a lobbyist subject to any problems that funding lobbying might have on our tax status. It was agreed that Al Stokes and Alice Lindahl will head a fund-raising committee.

Item 3: It was agreed to sell no tickets at the door for the annual banquet, to avoid the costly ordering of meals not

Item 4: People for Wise Water Planning distributed petitions to be signed by landowners only, protesting formation of a water conservancy district.

Logan, Utah 84321

Bridgerland Audubon Society

TOCYT CHYPTER

Chapter Membership Data Center

P.O. Box 51001 • Boulder, Colorado 80322-1001

P.O. Box 3501

Bob Atwood, 752-7012 Cynthia Kerbs, 752-3251 Larry Ryel, 753-8479 89-95 John Sigler, 753-5879 Dianne Browning, 752-5946 Ron Ryel, 753-6077 16-88 John Barnes, 563-3910 Board of Directors 06-78 Steve Cannon, 752-1209 Recycling Scott Cheney, 753-1893 Hotline Mae & Mery Coover Hospitality John Wise, 245-6695 Publicity Mike Jablonski, 752-0536 Circulation Pat Gordon, 752-6561 Newsletter Al Stokes, 752-2702 Field Trips Al Stokes, 752-2702 Membership Karen Matsumoto-Grah, 750-3468 Education Bruce Pendery, 750-0253 Conservation Betty Boeker, 752-8092 Treasurer Susan Robertson, 750-6325 Secretary John Mull, 753-7079 Vice President President Val Grant, 752-7572

p.m. The BAS Planning Committee meets every third Wednesday, October through May, in the Logan Library at 7:00

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

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