



# THE STILT

BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

Vol. 18, No.

January 1991

## LOGAN CANYON NEEDS YOU NOW!

Plans for improving Logan Canyon highway have been simmering on the back burner for years, and now that they've come to a boil, it's time to do some stirring.

The draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Logan Canyon highway was released to the public (sort of) at the start of December. Surprised you didn't receive a copy of the DEIS in the mail even though you spoke at the public meetings (in 1986 and 1987) or sent in a letter? So what should you do if you want to be involved in the campaign to save Logan Canyon?

1. Get a copy of the DEIS from Jim Naegle at the Utah Department of Transportation. Call him in Salt Lake City at (801) 965-4160 and request a copy.
2. Attend a letter-writing workshop at A Book Store (130 N. 100 E., Logan) on January 3, 7, or 10 at 7:00 p.m.
3. Attend and speak at the public hearing on 15 January, 1991, 7:30 p.m., at:  
Mount Logan Middle School (auditorium)  
875 N. 200 E., Logan
4. Submit written comments by 1 February 1991 to:  
James Naegle  
Utah Department of Transportation  
4501 S. 2700 W.  
Salt Lake City, UT 84119
5. If you have not received a copy of our pamphlet describing the alternatives in the DEIS and their environmental impacts by January 2, 1991, call

Steve Flint (752-9102) or Bruce Penderly (750-0253) (weekends only—we will be at the letter writing workshops weekday nights).

6. Lend financial support. Printing the pamphlet and getting legal advice is expensive. Make checks payable to the Citizens for the Protection of Logan Canyon (CPLC) and send them to PO Box 3501, Logan, UT 84321.

We all know there's a large gap of understanding (canyon-sized) between those who yearn for a concrete chute between point A and point B, and those who value the area between said points for its own beauty and life-giving functions. We're fortunate to live in a democracy which allows public input; please participate in this debate. Changes are in store for Logan Canyon, and now is the time to have an effect on long-term decisions. Make it a personal high-priority plan to protect Logan Canyon during January.

— Steve Flint

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## THE POWER OF ONE LETTER

Here's what Arizona Congressman Mo Udall said about the power of one letter: *"Perhaps 90 percent of our citizens live and die without ever taking pen in hand and expressing a single opinion to the people who represent them . . . This reluctance to communicate results from the typical and understandable feeling that . . . one letter won't make any difference anyway . . . I can state flatly that these notions are wrong . . . On several occasions, a single, thoughtful, factually persuasive letter did change my mind."*

# CALENDAR

**Thursday, January 10.** Bridgerland Audubon Monthly Meeting. 7:30 p.m. in Logan City meeting room, 255 North Main. Eric Stone of Idaho State University will talk on the natural history and behavior of a familiar and abundant Cache Valley corvid, the black-billed magpie. Eric, a graduate student, is studying communication among magpies, particularly their alarm calls, and is also examining their population biology.

**Friday and Saturday, January 11 and 12.** Free Workshop on "The Future of Pheasants in Utah." This workshop, sponsored by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, will feature presentations on various aspects of pheasant biology and management. It will be held at the Olympic Hotel and Convention Center at 161 West 600 South in Salt Lake City. The workshop is free and open to the public. For daily schedules and information contact Dave Larsen of the DWR at 538-4786.

**Tuesday, January 15.** Wasatch Audubon Meeting. 7 p.m. "Extraction of Human Remains from the Great Salt Lake." The recent rise and fall of the Great Salt Lake uncovered burial remains of early man. Dr. Steven Simms will discuss this important archeological discovery and answer your questions. This will be a fascinating meeting—be sure to get it on your calendar. However, to attend, you must do some discovering of your own. The meeting will be held at the United Church of Christ Congregational Church at 3350 Harrison Blvd. in Ogden. Get off I-15 at 12th, go east to Harrison (four lights from the freeway). There should be a Smith's on the corner. Turn right on Harrison, and go south about 20 blocks.

The church is up the hill from a health spa. Go through the spa's parking lot. There's only one entrance to the church; use it, and go downstairs. (Good luck!)

**Tuesday, January 22.** Cache Recycling Coalition will hold its first annual awards and recognition dinner, featuring leftovers for the main course. (Joke—forgive me.) Actually, superb chefs will prepare spaghetti for the occasion. Short speeches, good fellowship, hopes for the expanding role of recycling promise to make this a landmark event. Come add to the festivities. Call Nancy Fox for details at 753-3716.

**Thursday, February 14.** Bridgerland Monthly Meeting. "For the Benefit of the Birds." Dave Larsen of the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources will present a slide show focusing on the decline of upland game birds, particularly pheasants, in Utah. The program will address the possible causes of this decline and outline the DWR's plans to curb this problem.

## FIELD TRIPS

**Saturday, January 12.** Snow Study for Children. The Audubon Education Committee will be sponsoring the first monthly outdoor education class for children (between the ages of 7 and 14). We will leave from the Ladybird Overlook at the mouth of Logan Canyon and drive to Wood Camp Hollow. The class will study many aspects of snow, avalanches, snow dwellings and how wild creatures adapt to the world of winter. In order to assure reasonable student/teacher ratio, class size will be limited. To preserve the youthful nature of the group, we also need to limit adult involvement. For more information, call Kayo Robertson at 752-3944.

**Saturday, January 19.** Birding on the Other Side of the Mountain. Jim Palmer of Wasatch Audubon will meet all participants at the Ogden Nature Center at 9 a.m. After birding in the Nature Center, Jim will lead us to some other winter birding spots in Ogden. Dress warmly, bring binoculars and field guides.

**Saturday, January 19.** Animal Tracks and Signs. Meet at Fred Meyer's at 1 p.m. Return by 4. We will drive to the mouth of Card Canyon, eight miles up Logan Canyon, and then hike on foot about a mile up the road in Card Canyon. We should see tracks of snowshoe hare, red squirrel, mice, deer, and coyote, plus a few surprises. By following tracks we can tell what the animal has been doing, whether walking or running, and sometimes what it has been eating. We could see Clark's nutcracker, Townsend's solitaire, kinglets and others. Unless the snow is deep and soft, good hiking boots will do. A good family outing. Call 752-2702 if it looks like snowshoes or skis are in order.

**Saturday, February 23.** Searching for Beaver Activity Near Benson. Meet at Fred Meyer's parking lot, southwest corner, at 1 p.m. After exploring for a couple of hours, we'll have a bonfire and roast marshmallows. No reservations are needed, and everyone is welcome, members and non-members.

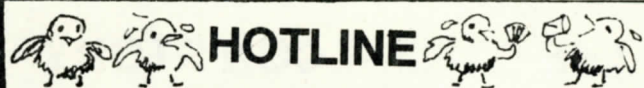


## WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

Richard Bean, Logan  
W.A. Beutler, Logan  
Jason Duane Bohman, Logan  
Michael Clark, Logan  
Vicky Doolittle, Mendon  
Donna L. Gordon, Logan  
Karla Hansen, Logan  
Adree Helm, Montpelier, Idaho  
Blair Larsen, Logan  
Janell Larson, Logan  
Loretta Lockett, Logan  
Sue Robertson, Logan  
Dr. Geoffrey Smitten, Providence  
Barry Wollenzien, Logan

## THANKS, RENEWING MEMBERS!

Michael C. Amacher, Logan  
Desmond and Loila Rae Anderson, Logan  
Leanna S. Ballard, Logan  
Richard A. Brown, Montpelier, Idaho  
Blaise Chansons, Logan  
Mr. and Mrs. Lewis A. Civile, Logan  
Kevin Connors, Logan  
Norbert V. DeByle, Logan  
Ms. Lula C. DeValve, Logan  
R. Ryan DuPont, Smithfield  
Maureen E. Ellis, Logan  
Laurie A. Freeman, Hyrum  
Mr. R. Goodwin, Logan  
Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Gordon, Logan  
William B. Hampton, M.D., St. St. Marie, Michigan  
Arthur H. Holmgren, Logan  
Robert B. Jackson, Logan  
Larry J. Jacobsen, Logan  
John A. Kadlec, Logan  
Ms. Linnea Johnson, Logan  
C. Leppert, Logan  
Mike Machalek, Logan  
Arthur Mahoney, Logan  
Barbara J. Miller, Logan  
Mrs. Rosalie Mueggler, Logan  
Richard Mueller, Logan  
John Mull, Logan  
Lois Olson, Logan  
Laura Riggs, Logan  
Mrs. Sandra Romesburg, Logan  
Mr. Rex E. Robinson, Logan  
John W. Sigler, Logan  
David Skabelund, Logan  
Robert H. Stewart, Richmond  
Marsha Swartzfager, Layton  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Taylor, Logan  
Mrs. Inez F. Voris, Logan  
Victoria Weber, Georgetown, Idaho  
Diana F. Wittkopf, Smithfield  
Mr. James L. Woodson, Logan



The big news for the month is the sighting of a gyrfalcon (pronounced jûr' fal' ken) over Cache Valley. The gyrfalcon is the largest of the North American falcons with a wingspan that approaches four feet. Like many of the raptors it comes in several color forms (morphs), dark, gray, and white. This is a rare sighting of a bird more typical in arctic climes. It will probably never be known if this individual was a true migrant or an escapee from a falconer.

There is an extensive overlap between the northern ranges of the peregrine and the gyrfalcon. I cannot help but imagine there must be some terrific aerial battles between the two species.

Tom Gordon called in a lone snow goose from the Benson marshes. I remember watching snow geese fall from the sky one winter in Wyoming. I suspected poison or other foul play, but the local waterfowl biologist assured me that many such birds simply give out on the southward migration, having acquired insufficient fat reserves to make the strenuous flight. A subsequent examination of one of the birds did indeed indicate very low fat reserves. Many creatures seem to live on the margin. Tom's bird may well have been in similar straits as snow geese are typically gregarious. Bob Stevens reported a skein of snow geese honking through the night over Richmond.

Linna Baldwin called in a query regarding evening grosbeaks. Linna noticed that the grosbeaks came through very early this year (early October) and left very quickly. She wonders if this is the experience of other folks here who maintain feeders. Her number is 753-0736. According to Jan Young evening grosbeaks wander a lot during migration depending upon available food supplies.

— Kayo Robertson  
752-3944

Alternate numbers: Val Grant - 753-5370; Nancy Williams - 753-6268.

## HOTLINE EXPANSION

Would you like to be notified when something unusual, like the gyrfalcon, is spotted locally? Are you willing to pass the word along to someone else before grabbing your lenses and getting gone?

We'd like to expand the Hotline's effectiveness, involving more eyes and ears in the quest for birding thrills. Please let us know who you are, and we'll try to organize a way to include you in the latest birding events. If you have an answering machine which could be used for a central birding line, let me know. That would help us get the word out. Or just call me and say you'd like to participate.

— Kayo Robertson



# THE GYRFALCON STORY

The fall of 1990 has continued to be an exciting time for sighting rare birds in Cache Valley. On November 15, a gyrfalcon was sighted perched on a telephone pole one-quarter mile south of the Jensen Historical Farm on Highway 89. The bird was seen by at least seven observers.

Looking for the rare bird is something we are always doing. Finding it is another story, but one thing is for sure—if you are not looking you will not see it. I drive to Ogden almost weekly and always scan the fencelines and telephone poles for hawks. On this particular morning, I was less than attentive, as my wife was driving and I was working. I had just noticed a large flock of gulls in the fields on the south side of the road and then glanced further down the highway. There on a telephone pole in front of us was a large white bird. With my mind not fully in gear I casually asked my wife, "Have you ever seen a gull sitting on a telephone pole?" "No," was her immediate reply, and "Neither have I," I thought. This was enough to direct my attention more closely to the bird as we drove by. Pretty funny-looking gull. Sometimes when you are not birding you have to make fast decisions. Do I keep on going and get to court on time [Bob's an attorney], or do we pull over and look at this bird more closely. Recognizing the importance of priorities, I asked my wife to pull over. A quick examination of the bird through binoculars showed this "gull" had the bill of a raptor and feathered legs. My mind kicked into gear. Rough-legged hawk? No tail band. Ferruginous hawk? The back and wings were white. Albino hawk? I never heard of one. Snowy owl? The eyes are dark, not yellow. The head is the wrong shape, and remember you are looking at the bill of a raptor. By now I am really excited, the heartbeat has noticeably increased. (Mine, not the bird's.) I whip out the National Geographic *Birds of North America*, turn to the section on raptors, and, on page 205, find a gyrfalcon illustrated in the white morph. "That's our bird!" I yelled excitedly to my wife. "Are you sure?" she said. The bird in photograph has more dark spotting on the back and wings. Artists always seem to notice small details like that. Whatever it turned out to be, this sighting deserved additional verification. We really hated to leave that bird, but a quick drive down the road took us to a telephone booth and a call to one of the valley's several experts, Dr. Keith Archibald. It wasn't hard to convince him that this bird was worth coming to see immediately. Keith had to make the same priority decision I did, only his decision was, "Shall I leave my patient in the chair behind, or shall I bring him with me?" Fortunately, the patient, being a member of Bridgerland Audubon, understood the urgency and said, "I'm coming too." It turned out to be a lucky birding day for Scott Datwyler.



We returned to the site of the first location and quickly found the bird again, this time on the other side of the road, a few hundred yards back on a fence post. We waited until Keith and Scott arrived to be sure they found the right bird and not the flock of gulls. After some observation, discussion, and study, it was agreed we had a white-phase gyrfalcon. We took photographs, and enjoyed watching the bird eat lunch. Examination of the bird's leftovers showed that lunch was a pheasant; that's gourmet food. Cache Valley can be a nice place to stop for lunch if you're a gyrfalcon. Unfortunately, I had to continue on to Ogden. The bird was seen later in the day by additional observers. Subsequent inquiry at the University of Utah indicated the white-morph gyrfalcon is most commonly found in Greenland. It was also interesting to note that a report to the North American Bird Alert had a white-phase gyrfalcon sighted in Montana on November 13, 1990.

How rare is the sighting? Reported sightings of gyrfalcons in Cache Valley occur every several years. I am unaware of any previous reports of a white-phase gyrfalcon. For me and several others it was a life bird, always exciting to find in your own back yard.

P.S. The judge was late, so I was not.

— Bob Atwood



# ADVENTURES IN BIRDLAND

## History and The Bird

As we turn the corner into a new decade, it's fitting that we look backwards and examine The Place of the Bird in History.

History began 60,000,000 years ago at 4:30 in the afternoon when a big meteorite or comet (called "Ylem" or "The Cosmic Egg" by astronomers) slammed into suburban Camden, NJ with a Big Bang and wiped out the dinosaurs. This left the earth populated only by birds and primitive mammals like professional wrestlers.

Noah came along in his ark, which was a canoe built out of cubits, and saved all the birds by stacking them, two by two, within and without with pitch. It rained a long time and everything drowned except the ducks, which explains the high rate of sin among ducks.

Birds got some poor press in the 1500s. Henry VIII (whose real name—just look at his picture—was Henry Ate) had four and twenty wives who insisted on serving him blackbird-noodle hot-dish, singing. In a rage he bit off the maid's nose and began the Reformation, the Enlightenment, the Renaissance and the Polka.

The Massachusetts Bay colony landed soon after completing the Mayflower Compact, one provision of which was promising to name a prominent landmark after the ship's chicken. The colony did a lot of starving, at which they were very good, until a Native American named Le Mans came along and showed them how to rot fish in the ground.

The eighteenth century saw many important events, several of which involved birds. England, for instance, was governed by a German family who didn't look English, didn't speak English, and didn't like the English. The English gave them lots of birds.

Meanwhile, America was revolting. Paul Revere rode out from under the spreading chestnut tree next to the Old North Church in Lexington, carrying two lanterns and yelling, "To arms! The British are coming! Big going-out-of-business sale at the silver shop!" George Washington threw a dollar or a "double eagle" across the Potomac and had to testify about it before Congress. He got off with a light sentence (four years of community service) by convincing them it was really a "double loon," worth considerably less and not a protected species.

Following our example, France conquered the Bastille on Bastille day. The watchword for their movement was, "Liberte, Egalite, et Fraternite," which means "Liberate Our Brother the Eagle." The revolution was won by Madame LaFarge, who shouted, "Off with their heads." She was better known as The Queen of Tarts.

A cozy little war started in 1812 over a conflict about bird-watching rights in the North Atlantic. Spying an

approaching British vessel, an American bird watcher named John Paul Jones exclaimed, "Wow! Look at the British frigate!" The British misunderstood his punctuation, retaliated, and the war was on. It was won by Andy Jackson who fought the Battle of New Orleans with the Everly Brothers.

Meanwhile, Napoleon occurred. He marched his entire army into Russia in a valiant effort to kill it all off and almost succeeded. The Russians needed cannons, so Peter Tschaikovski wrote "The 1812 Overture," which was full of them. A little bit later he wrote "The Little Bit Later In 1812 Overture," with even more cannons, but by then nobody cared. Birds had nothing to do with this.

The Civil War came along, during which A. Lincoln invented Thanksgiving by using a turkey to demonstrate that a bird divided against itself cannot stand. The turkey thus became our national sandwich, much to the posthumous chagrin of Benjamin Franklin, who had lobbied for the bald eagle.

There's much more to tell, of course, not the least of which is the story of our very famous president, Gentleman Bird Johnson. Another time, perhaps.

—TJG

## WATCH FOR THE SWANS!



Our neighbors to the north are concerned about the fates of trumpeter swans from areas near Yellowstone Park and Red Rock Lake Wildlife Refuge.

A non-migratory group of over 2,000 birds is becoming a scientific challenge. Since the birds do not migrate, there is a problem because of limited feeding grounds. Plans are being formulated to haze away the majority of the birds to warmer climates with open water.

When field managers attempt to disperse the swans from their primary wintering sites, the trumpeters could wander extensively as they seek out more suitable wintering sites.

Captured swans will be neck-banded and may be color-dyed prior to release. Birders are asked by the Fish & Wildlife Service to make note of any marked and/or unmarked trumpeters that are observed in unusual locations so that the population dispersal can be monitored.

If a marked swan is observed, make note of and report the code (if possible), the color of the neck-band and the



location of the dyed plumage (right wing, left wing, etc.). Record the date, location, observer's name, address and phone number, in addition to details regarding both marked and unmarked trumpeters.

Birders are asked to make a specific effort to closely observe any swans in the area, in order to distinguish between trumpeters and tundra swans.

The tundra swan usually has a black bill with a yellow spot of varying size in front of the eye (the spot may be absent on some tundras). The trumpeter swan has a black bill with a red border on the lower mandible.

Any observations of trumpeters should be mailed to:  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 1246 Yellowstone, A-4;  
Pocatello, ID 83201. Telephone: (208) 237-6616.

—*Pileated Post*

Dec. 1990  
Flathead Audubon Society  
Big Fork, Montana

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I dutifully read *The Stilt* with great interest and enthusiasm and was particularly drawn to the 'dead bird duty' report authored by Jean Lown in the December issue. It was a good idea to write about, but I want to point out two errors.

First, people who find a dead bird equipped with numbered leg band should not send the metal band to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, but instead should send the feds the band's number, as well as the date and place of its recovery. A description of the bird isn't necessary since the bird was obviously identified when it was banded.

As a waterfowl hunter, taking a game bird with a band is always an added bonus. I have a number of them, as do many other hunters.

The second minor error—although not one I think should be made in an Audubon newsletter—is on specific species nomenclature. Jean found two dead *Canada geese*, not a brace of Canadian geese. A *Canada goose* is specific to a genera and species; a Canadian goose is any goose from Canada.

No offense is intended. If there is anyone aware of how those kind of mistakes get into print, it's me.

— John J. Wise

Editor's note: OUCH!

## MORE MISTAKES

In spite of, or because of, ourselves, a few mishaps occurred with the membership directory. Please note these corrections in your copy:

Dianne Browning's phone no. is 752-5946

Jan Young's is 245-3645

and

Steve Flint, horrendously omitted entirely, should be written in capital letters. Address: 45 N 400 W, phone 752-9102.

— Pat Gordon

## THE BIRDATHON QUESTION:

### Who's in Charge Here?

During the last year chapter leaders have received many, many notices about the Birdathon—a nationwide fundraising event involving bird watching. It's like a Christmas bird count in the spring, with the added element of gathering pledges for donations (10 cents per species, e.g.) and collecting from the pledgers after the count. Half the funds go to National Audubon, the other half is controlled by individual chapters.

Thus far, no one has come forward to say, "That sounds like a good thing to do—I'll take charge!"

This chapter has no shortage of people willing to spend a day birding. The problem seems to be finding someone who likes to ask for money. How about you? Do you enjoy the challenge of fundraising, the mounting suspense as the red on the thermometer climbs steadily toward that almost impossible dream number? Do you have a pet cause for which you'd be willing to raise money?

The Salt Lake Chapter (Utah Audubon) is participating this year. Other chapters have raised mucho dollars this way. But we lack the essential ingredients—one person who wants to accept responsibility for organizing the event. If you're interested, let Pres. Val Grant know. Many birders will be glad for the excuse to spend a day among their feathered friends, and the chapter treasury will welcome the income. It could be earmarked for something special, like an answering machine for birding info. Besides which, we could be making a contribution to National Audubon's efforts on behalf of ancient forests, wetlands, endangered species, and environmental issues too numerous to mention because I don't know all of them, anyway.

If this project tantalizes you, don't fight the feeling; come forward and help us get the first Bridgerland Birdathon launched.

— Pat Gordon



## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

And lo, out of the Valley of Happy came a plaintive moan, "He's done it again! He's written another New Year's Letter! Arghh!!!" Yes, the Pres. speaks.

Yo! Dudes and Dudettes:

Did we have fun in 1990? Of course we did. Oh, there was the golf course, and the crane hunt, and the Water Conservancy District protest, and the prospect of Amalga Barrens being flooded, and now the Logan Canyon Draft EIS for our ulcers to grow on . . . but enough of the good news. Let's get down to brass tacks and all that for the upcoming year.

We live in a treasure called Cache Valley. How do we keep it that way? The best thing we can do as individuals is to take a personal responsibility for some aspect of our valley. As Auduboners we are usually associated with birds, their occurrence, care, feeding and general well-being. We have individuals who keep track of these critters with a dedication rivaling the priesthood (gender ignored). We need to establish the same dedication for mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fishes, trees, shrubs, forbs, grasses, and yes, the invertebrates, beetles, bees, box elder bugs, whatever group or class that tickles our fancy. We need to emulate the British in their individual knowledge of their environment. We need your expertise, your diligence to keep all of us on the right track. So pick a subject and keep track of when (time), where (location and habitat), and how many bugs, or bunnies or weeds you have around your place or in a nearby field. We need to become monitors of our own destiny.

Many thank you's are due to Mike Jablonski and Karen Matsumoto-Grah. Mike was our circulation chair for many moons (Have you ever seen a chair go in circles?) and he did a fine job. Mike kept our list up-to-date and our members informed via mailing *The Stilt* to hither, thither and yon. And for those who may wonder about delays in receiving *The Stilt*, look no further than how bulk mail is distributed.

Karen was our education chair and she has racked up the kudos, such as our Earth Day celebration last April, Audubon Adventures in beaucoup classrooms, Audubon scholarships to a bunch of scholars, and a bejillion opportunities for children to learn about nature through the Junior Naturalist program and all the other programs Karen has worked on and originated. We more than appreciate both Mike and Karen, and wish them well with untold success in their ventures.

Are there others to thank? You bet!! Marjorie Lewis and Jan Young for Holly Faire; Keith Archibald for the counting and accounting of Christmas boids; Alice Lindahl for being a one-woman dynamo; Bruce Pendery

for keeping us on track and in the public eye; Steve Flint for constancy on Logan Canyon; John Mull for providing us with stimulating speakers at our monthly meetings; Sue Robertson for taking cogent and copious notes; Dianne Browning for adding and subtracting in an accountable manner; Al Stokes for leading new members into the fold and getting us all into the field; Cynthia and Dale Kerbs for garage sale exertions; Pat Gordon for continuing her fine tradition of editing and publishing our newsletter; and Tom Gordon for being our new circulating chair (watch him spin) plus writing timely pieces for *The Stilt*; Mae and Merv Coover for hard work and hospitality; Kayo Robertson and Nancy Williams for being hot with the news about boids; Irma and Marvin Moon for keeping Audubon in the recycling game; Steve Cannon for consistency in keeping our cans cashed; and Nadene Steinhoff for helping us with a beautiful smile and song.

Most of all, thanks and a big hug to each of you for being members and for your help and support. Love ya!

— Laughing Bear  
alias Val Grant

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE: KAYO SEEKS HELP

The Audubon education committee will continue its efforts to promote outdoor science and environmental education in Cache Valley. The reins of chairperson are in the process of being handed over to Kayo Robertson by outgoing chairwoman Karen Matsumoto-Grah. Kayo would appreciate a call from anyone who has a particular interest in education and who would be willing to serve on the committee or otherwise lend a hand. In addition to maintaining the programs initiated by Karen and her predecessors, Kayo intends to promote a networking between those individuals and agencies that are interested in environmental education: the local U.S.F.S., school districts, teachers, D.W.R., and Utah State University. There has been a lot of reinventing of the wheel here. Everyone involved in teaching youngsters to love, appreciate, understand, and enjoy our planet should have access to local education efforts.

Another effort of the Audubon Education Committee will be to begin the design of outdoor education curriculum specifically tailored to Cache Valley. What weeds, birds, mammals, trees, and activities can be accommodated with walking distance of any school in the valley? Not having enough funds to hire buses is no good reason not to have field trips. With a bit of help we might be able to inservice a number of teachers in field trip techniques within reach of their classrooms.

Lewiston Elementary School is designing an environmental education center on their school



playground. To my knowledge this is a first in northern Utah that will involve hands-on participation of the school children. We will be watching this closely and doing our best to promote the effort among other local schools. It doesn't take much to bring in a truckful of dirt, plant some trees and shrubs and wildflowers, drop a horse trough in the ground filled with water, aquatic plants, fish, frogs, and insects, a few rotted logs, rocks to turn over . . . it doesn't take much but until Lewiston nobody has done it. Perhaps with our help outdoor education centers will become a common aspect of local school design.

The Education Committee will conduct a monthly field trip (the second Saturday of each month). These outings will be designed for children aged 7 to 14 and will focus on the natural history of place, where we live. The first of these will be held Jan. 12, 1991 and will examine the impact of snow on the local environmental snow science. Class size will be limited. If you are interested in conducting a class or know of children interested in attending, please call Kayo at 752-3944.

Another effort of the committee will be to assist in the establishment of a valley-wide outdoor nature center. Earnest money has been placed on St. Anne's retreat in Logan Canyon for this purpose. If it is accepted a fund-raising effort will begin immediately. If you have interest or expertise in this kind of work please let us know.

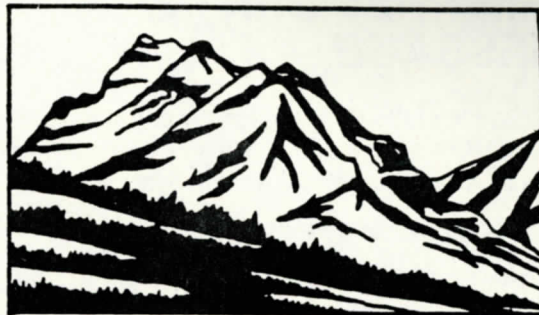
Finally, we are interested in supporting anything local that deals with outdoor education.

## CACHE RECYCLING COALITION PLANS JANUARY ACTION

During January, Recycling Awareness Month, the Cache Recycling Coalition will have some educational activities. "Facts About Household Hazardous Waste" will be presented by Kit Farrel-Poe, USU Extension Services, in Smithfield, Logan, and Wellsville. "Recycling and Pre-cycling: Why and How" will be presented at North Logan, Mendon, and Hyrum locations. Watch the newspapers and listen for radio announcements about details for these educational programs.

Try to persuade your neighbors who are not already hep about recycling to attend. Or come to reinforce your own knowledge and enthusiasm for recycling.

Elmer Kingsford, assistant to the director of Logan City sanitation, will be working with CRC to establish and service five drop-off sites for recyclable materials. When these sites are in operation, we will have our first local government participation in making recycling easier for the many citizens of this county who want a dependable way of disposing.



## POETS, TAKE NOTE!

We are proud to announce  
the Sixth Annual  
Wilderness Poetry Competition  
of the Utah Wilderness Association

First Prize: \$100  
Deadline: February 15, 1991

All poets are invited to participate in an exciting competition sponsored by the Utah Wilderness Association. Send your unpublished poem, related to the theme of wilderness, its preservation, its life and values, to POETRY/Utah Wilderness Association, 455 East 400 South, #306, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111. A prize of \$100 will be awarded to the winning poet. The winning poem and the top five honorable mentions will be published in the spring issue of the Utah Wilderness Association *Review* (circulation of 1500).

**RULES:** Poems must not exceed 40 lines, may be in any style and must be limited to the themes above. No more than three poems may be entered by any poet. Each poem must be accompanied by a \$3.00 entry fee. Send two copies of each poem: one must include your name, address and phone number in the upper right corner; the second must contain the poem only, to guarantee anonymity. Poets retain all rights. **ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FEBRUARY 15, 1991.**

For further information contact Margaret Pettis, Poetry Coordinator, (801) 359-1337.

— Margaret Pettis



## HIKING GUIDEBOOK SEEKS NEW TRAILS TO DESCRIBE

Falcon Press Publishing Co. of Helena, Montana is currently updating and expanding a guidebook titled *The Hiker's Guide to Utah*. One of a series of guidebooks published by Falcon Press, it was released in 1982; this is the first revision.

The present guide describes 60 hikes in various national forests, BLM resource areas, national parks and monuments throughout Utah. Many of the hikes were contributed by members of the Utah Wilderness Association as well as other conservation organizations.

We want to incorporate at least 20 new hikes into this next revision of the guide. I need your help to locate and describe new hikes throughout Utah.

We need a brief description of the hike, a simple map (drawn or marked on a Travel Council, forest service, USGS or BLM map), and a photo (preferable black and white) if available. Each individual would be acknowledged as a contributor in the guide.

I'm sending one of the hikes from the guide as a sample of the format used throughout the book. To avoid duplication, I'm also enclosing a copy of the table of contents listing all the hikes. [Space limitations prohibit printing these. Please call Pat Gordon if you want to see them.] The deadline on the project is February 1, 1991.

Please reply to me at: Falcon Press, c/o Ann Seifert, 2405 Greyson, Helena, MT 59601.

I look forward to hearing from you. If you'd like to contact me directly, please call (406) 443-2021 between 1 and 5 p.m. weekdays or (406) 449-7644 evenings.

## BOOK REVIEW

***Teaching Kids to Love the Earth* by Marina Herman, Joseph Passineau, Ann Schimpf, and Paul Treuer. Pfeifer-Hamilton 1991.**

There is a particular delight to the day. Beyond the brightness of the new snow, the lovely laziness that accompanies Sunday mornings, and the memory of the fresh cougar tracks seen yesterday in a nearby canyon, I have just finished a delightful book. Co-authored by one-time Cache Valley resident and Auduboner Ann Schimpf and USU graduate student Joseph Passineau, and well illustrated by Carolyn Olson, *Teaching Kids to Love the Earth* is an unpretentious set of tales and activities written by adults who have learned to bend their knees and come down to the earth that our children natively inhabit.

Sigmund Freud once despaired of the "distressing contrast between the radiant intelligence of the child and the feeble mentality of the average adult." Indeed the questions that my four-year-old son asks about the world are as penetrating as my own. He wonders about

seasons and cycles, birthing and dying, changing and growing. In thirty years of working with children I have seen no particular adult superiority to children in terms of awareness, sensitivity, spirit, or wisdom. Children are no less intelligent than adults, just less experienced. *Teaching Kids* honors throughout this "radiant intelligence" of the child. It is imbued with a deep respect for children and the gift of curiosity, the urge to learn, explore, and wonder, that they perennially offer those adults who care for them.

Schimpf's book is written in a spirit of listening and following. If we wish to lead our children to a love of the natural world then we must learn to follow them in that direction. Children love stories, love to pretend, love to play. They show an innate need to explore, discover, share, and adventure. Children demand challenge, the right to make their own mistakes, to experience solitude, and come up with their own answers to the many questions that exploration unveils. These are the themes that are so ably explored by this book. Its authors understand that if we are to teach children, then we must listen closely to how it is they naturally come to learn."

The key to children's "radiant intelligence" is their capacity for imagination. All too often, environmental education, by providing too many answers, robs children of their imagination. This is a theft of serious consequence, for if curiosity is to bloom into numinous wonder, it needs a good dose of the unknown. It is only our adult fear of the world that would securely brick up its infinity with the smallness of finite answers. Rather than a function of demonstration or didactics, the teaching that Schimpf's book refers to is really an effort of respectful sharing. It asks us to take our children's hands and actively follow them along the trails that lead through forest and meadow, the wilderness within and without.

*Teaching Kids* is a book for families, "significant others," parents, grandparents, teachers, and anyone intimately involved with kids. It not only lays down a solid philosophical base for environmental education, but also offers hundreds of practical, open-ended activities to share with children. Its stories are written from the authors' own experiences with their families. They touch a chord of response that I believe all parents will find warming and true. The writing style is simple, thoughtful, often inspired, and throughout gentle.

*Teaching Kids* evokes a passion for the earth, a planet that has given us "insight, skills, wisdom, and spiritual growth." It calls for an "embrace" between our ancestors who led us to this point in time, and our children, who carry our collective dreams into the future. It asks us to, "listen, listen, listen," to be aware of the "golden moment" when the past and the future merge into the present. This book is quite simply the best that I have read on sharing the best of the world with our children.

Now! My boy has discovered, with a passion, that ancient winter footwear, the snowshoe. Now it is time to push the typewriter away and follow his young tracks into the forest that just yesterday held sign of cougar. *Teaching Children* reaffirms my joy in knowing that these small trails of wonder are shared by so many of us.

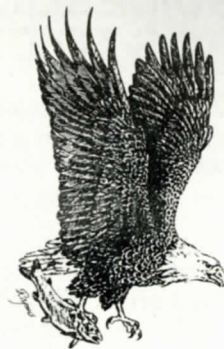




## TWO EDUCATIONAL VACATIONS

### Explore the Sonoran Desert

The 21st annual Institute of Desert Ecology will be sponsored by the Tucson Audubon on April 18-21, 1991, at Catalina State Park north of Tucson. The Institute is an exciting four days of field studies in Sonoran Desert ecology, under the enthusiastic tutelage of six of Arizona's foremost natural history experts. Sessions focus on relationships between plants, wildlife, and the desert environment. Participants camp in a shaded mesquite bosque adjacent to undisturbed desert washes, canyons, hillsides, and rich riparian areas. Ample, tasty meals are catered on-site and all camp services except sleeping equipment (and tents or campers) are provided. The cost is \$245, with university credit available for an additional fee. For more information, contact the director, Nora Mays, at 300 E. University Blvd., Suite 120, Tucson, AZ 85705, or call her at (606) 682-8716.



### Enjoy an Eagle Event

The 12th Annual Klamath Basin Bald Eagle Conference takes place 15-17 February, 1991, in Klamath Falls, Oregon.

The Klamath Basin of northern California and south-central Oregon—home to over 170 species of breeding birds and world famous for spectacular flocks of migratory waterfowl—hosts the largest concentration of Bald Eagles in the lower 48 states. The Klamath Basin Bald Eagle Conference coincides with the presence of wintering waterfowl and eagles so that conference participants can enjoy these magnificent birds. 1991 marks the Twelfth Annual Bald Eagle Conference. The conference originated in 1979 to educate people about the value of eagles. The purpose of the conference is to share information, increase awareness, and gain understanding of our wildlife resources. . . especially our national symbol, the Bald Eagle.

If you plan to attend, register early because space is limited! For more information call (503) 883-5732 days or (503) 882-8488 evenings.

## PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

**ENTRANTS:** Must be either National Audubon Society members or Eagle Conference attendees.

**CLASS:** There will be an amateur class only. Photographers who receive more than 50% of their income from photo sales are considered professionals and are ineligible.

**CATEGORIES:** Eagles, Birds, Wildlife, Nature

**DIVISIONS:** Prints (black and white or color), transparencies (slides).

**NUMBER OF ENTRIES ACCEPTED:** One per category per division.

**PREPARATION OF ENTRY:** All prints must be mounted and may be matted, but should not be framed. Entrant's name, address, and category must be on the back of each entry along with at least one hanger. For slides, entrant's name, address, and category must be written on each entry.



**DEADLINE:** Entries will be accepted from 4-7 p.m. Friday, February 15 and from 8-9:30 a.m. Saturday, February 16 at the photo table near registration in the OIT Student Union Building, or mail to Mike Reeder, 1531 Kimberly Dr., Klamath Falls, OR 97603 prior to February 15, 1991.

**JUDGING:** Judging of entries will begin at 11 a.m. Saturday and take around 2 hours.

**PRIZES:** Winners will be announced at the banquet.  
Best of Show: Prints and Transparencies - Ribbon, and up to \$35 cash and/or a gift certificate.

First Place in Each Category: Prints and Transparencies - Ribbon and \$10 cash or gift certificate.

Second Place in Each Category: Prints and Transparencies - Ribbon

**DISPLAY OF ENTIRES:** Will be downstairs in the lobby of the OIT Student Union. Prints will be hung and transparencies will be shown on a continuously running projector.

**PICK-UP OF ENTIRES:** Contest will close and be removed after the banquet at around 8 p.m. Saturday. All entrants are responsible for picking up their own entries. You can pick up entries either Saturday after the banquet or Sunday between 8:30 and 9:00 a.m. Mailed entries will be returned by mail as soon after the conference as possible.

One issue on which nearly all sides seemed to agree was stopping the export of unmilled logs to help save jobs and trees. Language included in a major trade bill (HR-1594) will permanently ban exports of unmilled logs from federal lands and most state lands in the West, and will stop mills from using federal timber to run their domestic mills after selling their raw logs abroad.

— from *Audubon Leader*  
Dec. 1990

## WHERE TO WRITE

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable George W. Bush  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Capitol Switchboard:  
(202) 224-3121

To find out the status of any bill, call Legislative Information and Bill Status at (202) 225-1772.

## ANCIENT FORESTS

Congress blocked several attempts to encourage the logging of ancient forests in the Pacific Northwest and California. The Senate rejected Sen. Bob Packwood's (R-OR) proposal that the Endangered Species Committee address the question of whether the spotted owl should be exempt from the Endangered Species Act, thereby allowing ancient forest logging to continue for as long as ten years.

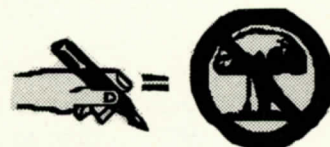
Both the Senate and House refused to consider proposals by Sen. Mark Hatfield (R-OR) and Rep. Les AuCoin (D-OR) to weaken forest protection laws. These changes would have increased the timber industry's power and drastically reduced citizens' rights to litigate over improper forest management and judges' power to stop illegal forestry practices.

Reps. James Jontz (D-IN) and Bruce Vento (D-MN) each introduced bills which would have provided substantial protection for forests. Congress made progress on such legislation, but failed to approve permanent protection for endangered ancient forests.

## WRITING TO STOP NUCLEAR TESTING

Dear Fellow Auduboners,

I'm sure you are just as proud as I am of Audubon for the lobbying work that has been done both nationally and locally. But, there are issues vital to the survival of our planet that Audubon has understandably avoided. One of those topics is the nuclear arms race.



Many groups are working to end the nuclear arms race. I want to tell you about one of them: Writing to Stop Nuclear Testing (WSNT). WSNT members do one simple thing; they write two letters each month to end nuclear testing. WSNT sends members a postcard two times each month. Each postcard provides background information, suggested points to emphasize, and the name and address of the person to write. I have discovered the writing to be easy and fun!

Let me explain a bit why I think it so important to end nuclear testing. The nuclear arms race will not end until



we stop nuclear testing. And it is folly to think we can halt nuclear proliferation if the U.S. continues to design, test, and build new nuclear weapons. Thus, the safety of our earth hinges upon (among other things) the ending of nuclear testing.

The U.S.S.R. has repeatedly asked the U.S. to join them in a nuclear testing moratorium. Soviet citizens want an end to testing and have had mass demonstrations protesting testing. The Soviets did not test from October 20, 1989 until October 24, 1990. This was their second moratorium within the last five years. On October 12, 1990 the U.S. conducted its eighth test in 1990.

Not only does the U.S. refuse to join the Soviets in a testing moratorium, the U.S. also refuses to negotiate for a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. It is the U.S. which insists the nuclear arms race continue

JOIN WSNT! And have fun writing. Call 485-6695 or 364-2971 if you need more information.

As always, I look forward to seeing you with the birds!

— Al Stokes



My Name \_\_\_\_\_

My Address \_\_\_\_\_

City

State

Zip

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution for printing and postage

(\$0 \_\_\_\_\_) (\$10 \_\_\_\_\_) (\$20 \_\_\_\_\_) (other \_\_\_\_\_)

Please return to:

WSNT, Box 81101, Salt Lake City,  
Utah 84158

## THE ENVIRONMENTAL PRICE OF NUCLEAR TESTING

The production and testing of nuclear weapons are the most environmentally destructive war-preparation activities. The mining and processing of radioactive ore, weapons assembly, and disposal of radioactive wastes contaminate extensive areas used by the world's nuclear weapons powers. Weapons testing takes place in the most isolated (and therefore the least disturbed) environments, contaminating soils, plants, animals, and groundwater for thousands of years. Since 1963 the United States and Great Britain have exploded more than 670 nuclear weapons and "devices" in the Nevada desert, on land claimed by the Western Shoshone Nation. In this same region, the United States is constructing a high-level nuclear waste disposal center. Between 1946 and 1958, the United States detonated sixty-six atomic and hydrogen bombs on Bikini and Enewetok atolls in the Pacific. The radio active cleanup will cost \$200 million.

Elsewhere in the Pacific, the United States and Britain exploded 34 atomic and hydrogen bombs on Christmas Island (1957-1962); Britain set off 12 nuclear weapons on eleven Aboriginal nations in northwestern and central Australia (1952-1957); beginning in 1966, France detonated 132 nuclear weapons on Moruroa and Fangatuaafa atolls in the South Pacific. On Moruroa the bombing created fissures a half mile long and eighteen inches wide in the coral base, blew large pieces out of its sides, collapsed the entire atoll until it is barely awash above the sea, and produced more than one million leaking bags and barrels of radioactive waste. The destruction of the coral reef may have led to the proliferation of single-celled organisms that produce toxins ingested by many species of fish. Ciguatera fish poisoning is now a public health and economic problem on many Pacific islands where people depend on fish for food and income. On Johnston Island, the United States is planning to incinerate expired-date chemical and biological weapons materials despite the protests of island peoples living downwind and downstream.

— from "The Ecology of War & Peace"  
by Bernard Nietschmann  
*Natural History*  
November 1990



# WAYS TO SAVE THE EARTH AND IMPROVE YOUR LIFE AT THE SAME TIME

The environmental crisis cannot be solved entirely by modifications in our lifestyle. We also must change our thinking about humanity's relationship to the natural world and to one another, as well as engage in all levels of political action from protests to elections.

## SOLUTIONS:

1. Use simple means in your daily tasks and avoid unnecessarily complicated instruments.
2. Avoid "novophilia" - love of what is new merely because it is new.
3. Appreciate ethnic and cultural differences among people.
4. Be concerned about the situation of Third and Fourth World people and attempt to avoid a standard of living too much higher than them
5. Pursue depth and richness of experience rather than intensity.
6. Appreciate and choose, when possible, meaningful work rather than just making a living.
7. Cultivate life in your community.
8. Satisfy vital needs rather than desires.
9. Appreciate all life-forms rather than merely those considered beautiful, remarkable, or narrowly useful.



10. Never use the life-forms merely as means. Remain conscious of their intrinsic value and dignity even when using them as resources.
11. Don't insulate yourself from nature or the weather; go barefoot, make a snow castle.
12. When there is a conflict between interests of pet animals and wild species, protect the latter.
13. Celebrate seasonal changes, solstices, and equinoxes with special observances.
14. Partake in or support nonviolent direct action when other ways of action fail.
15. Reduce stress in your life.
16. Do physical work.
17. Have fun and be joyful.
18. Sing and dance.

Source: *133 Ways to Save the Earth and Personal Action Guide for the Earth* pamphlet and Sun Mountain Center (March/April 1989)

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 the following Wednesday, October through May, in the Logan Library at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

President	Val Grant, 752-7572
Vice President	John Mull, 753-7079
Secretary	Susan Robertson, 752-4598
Treasurer	Dianne Browning, 752-5946
Conservation	Alice Lindahl, 753-7744
Education	Karen Matsumoto-Grah, 750-3468
Membership	Al Stokes, 752-2702
Field Trips	Al Stokes, 752-2702
Newsletter	Pat Gordon, 752-6561
Circulation	Tom Gordon, 752-6561
Publicity	Bruce Pendery, 750-0253
Hospitality	Mae & Merv Coover
Hotline	Kayo Robertson, 752-3944
Recycling	Marvin & Irma Moon, 753-4698
Trustees	
1987-90:	John Barnes, 563-3910; Dianne Browning, 752-5946
1988-91:	Ron Ryel, 753-6077; John Sigler, 753-5879
1989-92:	Larry Ryel, 753-8479; Cynthia Kerbs, 752-3251; Bob Atwood, 752-9284, Office, 753-0012

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.

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER.

## National Audubon Society Chapter Membership Application

**Yes,** I'd like to join.

Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society and of my local chapter. Please send AUDUBON magazine and my membership card to the address below.

☐ My check for \$20 is enclosed.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Please make all checks payable to the National Audubon Society.



Send this application and your check to:

**National Audubon Society**

Chapter Membership Data Center

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

**LOCAL CHAPTER**

**Bridgerland Audubon Society**

P.O. Box 3501

Logan, Utah 84321

**W-52**

Local Chapter Code  
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Subscriptions to *The Stilt* are available to non-members for \$5.00 per year. Call Tom Gordon, 752-6561.



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