



THE STILT

BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

Volume 20, No. 10

Upper Northern Utah

June 1992

PRESIDENTIAL THOUGHTS

COMING . . .

If you hang around long enough you'll end up as the Bridgerland Audubon Society (BAS) president, I guess. That's what happened to me—but it *is* an honor.

After eight years with Bridgerland Audubon (education committee member, vice-president, conservation chair, publicity chair) I think I have become well aware of the numerous strengths of BAS, and have become aware of a few shortcomings, too. My goal is to maintain or enhance our strengths and reduce the shortcomings.

BAS has been a strong and vibrant organization, primarily because of the incredible creativity and energy of its committee chairs. Al Stokes' field trip program is legendary. Alice Lindahl has made BAS the leading environmental advocacy group in northern Utah. Pat Gordon's efforts with *The Stilt* have won national recognition. Thus, one of my principal tasks will be to ensure that BAS's numerous committees continue to be as strong as they have been in the past.

I feel there are at least two aspects to maintaining our committees' strength. First, the committee chairs should continue to have a great deal of latitude in what projects they pursue and in how they pursue them. Committee chairs aren't paid a dime, yet the time commitment of some committees can be great. The least we can offer a committee chair in "compensation" is freedom and

Please see COMING on page 3.

AND GOING

Hi! My name is Val, a name that for all intents and purposes should be forgotten once this missive is perused. Many, many Auduboners have asked me to give my view of the environment and she said now or never, so here it is. First and foremost, I deal with regulators, environmentalists, biologists, protectionists and whatever other "ists" exist in the environmental field as a wildlife consultant for private industry. At no time in 16 years have I come across an organization like Bridgerland Audubon. Essentially this chapter represents all phases of the environmental spectrum with a natural respect for all views. An unusual but welcome group of animal lovin', ruckus raising, down-home folks! For these three years I owe each of you heartfelt thanks for this chance to serve you, especially the officers, board of trustees and chairpeople.

Please see GOING on page 3.

INSIDE

SUMMER ACTION	2
ADVENTURES IN BIRDLAND	6
ON THE TRAIL OF THE BAHAMA SWALLOW	7
CRANE HEARING JUNE 6	10
BAS YARD SALE JULY 6	11

CALENDAR

Friday, June 26. Crane Hearing. 1 p.m. Once again, our local cranes are scheduled to be targets. See article on page 10 for details on how to make a difference for these beautiful summer residents.

Saturday, July 6. BAS Yard Sale. You, your old treasures, and your well-spent money are invited to help raise funds for our lobbyist, that he might continue his valuable work at the state legislature. 1780 East 1400 North, Logan. See article on page

Saturday, August 15. Next Stilt Deadline. Summer pleasures lure the erstwhile staff of *The Stilt* to dally and dabble otherwise for a couple of months. Save your tales of romance and adventure for the September issue. Deliver them punctually to 718 North 200 East, Logan. Meanwhile, get outside and enjoy all that good stuff!

FIELD TRIPS

Summer field trips have been cancelled, sort of. If the mood is right, notices will appear in *The Herald Journal* and elsewhere. However, an early fall field trip is planned.

Friday-Sunday, August 28-30. Annual Red Rocks Camping Trip. Camp at the lakeside home of trumpeter swans in southwest Montana. Hike, canoe, drive around the wildlife refuge viewing wildlife. Last year a whooping crane was the big thrill. This is a relaxed, enjoyable outing in a beautiful setting—a nice way to get acquainted with others. The trip takes about six hours. Call Tom or Pat Gordon at 752-6561 for details.

PADDLING TRIPS

Thursday, May 22. Informal Thursday Night Paddling Trip. 5:45 p.m. Meet in parking lot behind Trailhead Sports. We'll decide where to go when we meet, but generally we will paddle a flat water section of Cutler Reservoir, the Bear River, Logan River, or Spring Creek. Bring your own boat and gear. Return around dark. If you're late, we'll try to leave our destination taped to the rear entrance of Trailhead Sports. Call Bryan or Jean at 752-6830 for more information.

Thursday, June 4. Informal Thursday Night Paddling Trip. 5:45 p.m. (See May 22 description.)

Thursday, June 18. Informal Thursday Night Paddling Trip. 5:45 p.m. (See May 22 description.)

Thursday, July 2. Informal Thursday Night Paddling Trip. 5:45 p.m. (See May 22 description.)

Thursday, July 16. Informal Thursday Night Paddling Trip. 5:45 p.m. (See May 22 description.)

CACHE HIKERS

Saturday, June 6. Hike to Naomi Peak. 8 a.m. Call Homer Walker, 753-4482, for information. For all hikes meet at SW corner Fred Meyer parking lot.

Saturday, June 20. Hike up Steam Mill Hollow. 8 a.m. Call Jim Sinclair, 752-0061, for information.

Saturday, July 4. Hike up Blind Hollow. 8 a.m. Call Kennita Thatcher, 753-8415, for information.

Saturday, July 18. Hike to Steel Hollow (Old Ephraim's Grave). 8 a.m. Call Glenn Trostle, 753-6398, for information.

Hikes for August have not yet been scheduled. Call 753-8415 for details later in summer.

EARLY SPRING?

Hyde Park Bench Report

One advantage of keeping a journal is the marking return of various birds, insects and flowers every spring. Alarmed by the early warmth and threat of a dry summer, I went back over the last four years and compared return dates of some of my favorites:

1. First meadowlarks: March 5, 1989; March 6, 1990; March 4, 1991; February 19, 1992.

2. Lazulis return: May 22, 1989; May 10, 1991; May 6, 1992.

3. First cricket sounds: May 15, 1989; May 4, 1990; April 22, 1992.

4. Iris blooming: May 20, 1989; April 15, 1990; May 1, 1991; April 10, 1992.

5. Noticed the kestrels mating on our telephone pole: April 20, 1988; April 13, 1989; April 4, 1991; April 10, 1992.

This very unscientific record is included for anyone who might find it interesting.

— Bobbie Cleave Bosworth
563-3488

COMING . . .

Continued from page 1

flexibility to pursue the projects they are most interested in. Second, no matter how rewarding committee activities can be (and believe me, there are a great number of rewards), people move on, have changes in priorities, or simply "burn out." Thus, continually finding new activists will be where I focus much of my efforts. (Give me a call at 750-0253 if you are interested in becoming more involved with BAS.)

BAS's shortcomings—such as they are—mainly relate to our explosive growth in the last five to ten years. When I first became involved with BAS we were a club; somewhere along the line we became a multi-faceted organization. Eight years ago we had perhaps \$4,000 in assets; currently we have about \$28,000 in assets. We have gone from having some involvement in conservation affairs to a point where we now help support a lobbyist at the state legislature, and can launch massive, coordinated campaigns (e.g., The Barrens project and Logan Canyon). Our field trips now extend into four states, and a hiking group has become affiliated with BAS. All these changes present challenges and have created some "growing pains."

Most of the "pains" are related to boring organizational details which, like it or not, become more important as we grow. By-laws, succession of the board of trustees, and things of that nature require increasing attention. While not inherently interested in such matters I plan to focus significant attention on this kind of detail to insure BAS continues to grow.

Anyway, summer is just around the corner (or maybe it's already here) and it should be another great season afield in Cache Valley. Call me if you have any thoughts or comments on BAS's programs and direction.

— Bruce Pendery
750-0253

AND GOING

Continued from page 1

Okay! Okay! Get on with it! Kick a little dirt! Raise a ruckus on occasion. And the first one I'll go after is National Audubon. Audubon's power in the past relied on its strong chapters and passive but strong regional and national leadership. For some reason that is changing. *Audubon* magazine no longer portrays nature through its photographic excellence, allowing its pictures to speak 1000 words. We now have monies expended on national fund-raising campaigns (Birdathons, for example). Our local environmental battles are relegated to the back burner while our whoop-e-doo national issues are pushed to the forefront. The solution to this is for Bridgerland to stand its ground, keep working hard on our local projects, spend our monies and direct our funding-raising to local issues, and let national bask in our success. Nuff said.

Next on my agenda are sandhill cranes. I've hired through my business a biologist to monitor cranes in Cache Valley on a full-time basis through the summer. The data we collect will be available to anyone who's interested. Our monitoring will be used to make some sense out of crane management for Utah's Division of Wildlife Resources. Bridgerland has been monitoring cranes for two years with some success but we need full-time biologists on the job, so here goes. Any and all volunteers are welcome. The more eyes and ears, the better.

Almost last, but certainly not least, is Logan Canyon. Here I speak only for myself. Utah Department of Transportation, our Chamber of Commerce, and all those who think Logan Canyon's grandeur can be sacrificed to a wider highway (not safer and only a bit faster), you might have your way. Nevertheless, you instill in me the same emotion that acquitting the police in Rodney King's beating instilled in sisters in Los Angeles. UDOT, per our Chamber's suggestion, needs to budget for independent environmental monitoring for the life of the project. The rules will be that if the construction crew breaks the rules, especially with a flagrant foul, like taking out trees, in the lower canyon, the construction stops, the problem is corrected, and we start again.

And lastly, what are my personal beliefs? And my favorite quote is "Who cares (?)" Since I haven't had an original thought since I reached the age of reason, I prefer to be a cheerleader and let those who know lead the way. And one of those is your new president. Have at it, Bruce.

— Val Grant

NOTE: Leadership is a rare quality, and difficult to define. But you can recognize a leader by what happens behind him—people follow. Judging by the results of our last three years with Val at the helm, we were lucky to have his leadership charisma working for us. Let's hope he finds room in his heart and schedule to stay involved.

— Pat

As always . . .

This newsletter is printed on recycled paper. It is also recyclable. We use soy ink for the printing process.



WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

Joshua Bingham, Logan
 Dale and MaryJo Blahna, Logan
 Andrea Brickey, Salt Lake City
 Katie Bryson, Smithfield
 J. Budge, Smithfield
 Jim Burruss, Salt Lake City
 Mrs. Tacker Bybee, Hyrum
 Debra Cheney, Logan
 Shonie D. Davis, Logan
 Nancy Drown, Logan
 Randy Goodwin, Trenton
 Ron Hellstern, Logan
 Mrs. Judith J. Johnson, Logan
 Mr. Keith E. Johnson, Salt Lake City
 Mr. David W. Kennedy, Logan
 Kenna Larsen, Logan
 Mr. Steven R. Meyer, Logan
 L. Natras, Logan
 Fredrik Norrsell, Logan
 Northern Title Company, Logan
 Ruth P. Tippetts, Logan
 Michael A. and LeAnn Troyer, Logan
 Ms. Marie Veibell, Logan
 Daniel J. Zamecnik, Logan
 Allan Zipf, Logan


THANKS, RENEWING MEMBERS!

Leon C. Astle
 Jan Bakker, Logan
 Mr. and Mrs. John Barnes, Smithfield
 Barr Bentley, Logan
 W. A. Beutler, Logan
 John R. Carlisle, Logan
 Mr. R. T. Clark, Smithfield
 Mr. Curtis C. Elmore, Logan
 Mr. John Cletus Erlacher, Salt Lake City
 Nancy Fox and David Fogel, Smithfield
 Chris and Madelle Friess, Logan
 Don Gunnell, Logan
 Pamela Hudson, Hyde Park
 Barbara Kerr, Hyrum
 Alice Lindahl, Logan
 James Malour, Logan
 Nancy Mesner, Logan
 William M. Moore, Smithfield
 Dr. Jack Payne, Ducks Unlimited, Inc., Lake Zurich, IL
 Carmen Reich, Logan
 Mr. Rex E. Robinson, Logan
 Ron Ryel, Logan
 Renate Schaaf, Logan


Dr. R.J. Shaw, Logan
 Scott T. Smith, Logan
 William F. Sigler, Logan
 Mrs. L. A. Stoddart, Logan
 L.M. Underwood, Logan
 Jody Williams, Salt Lake City
 Bruce Wilcox, Logan
 Mr. John K. Wood, Logan
 John Wyllie, Logan
 Dr. Janet Lee Young, Hyrum

During March and April, chapter efforts brought us ten new members. Each of those new memberships meant \$15 for the BAS treasury for a total of \$150. National Audubon recruiting netted 13 new memberships. Each of those added \$5.50 to coffers, totaling \$71.50. The moral: If you want your membership fee to go to local efforts, use the form in this newsletter or local brochures marked "W-52." This only applies to NEW memberships. All renewals will mean \$5.50 to the local chapter; the rest is used by the national organization in many causes.


AT YOUR DOOR




V E T E R I N A R Y




S E R V I C E S




Dr. Rebecca Echols




Telephone 801. 753. 7507

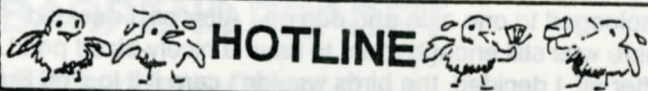


P. O. Box 27, Providence UT 84332



Medicine, Surgery and Dentistry





Nothing earth shattering has flown through Cache Valley this spring—at least nothing we've heard about.

However, there have been a couple of interesting "warm" reports, starting with Keith Archibald's report of four species of woodpecker seen while he was hiking near Beaver Mountain just before the Save-the-Canyon vigil April 25. He spotted a three-toed woodpecker, a flicker, a hairy woodpecker and a red-naped sapsucker.

Tom Gordon watched a yellow-breasted chat May 9 in his yard after the rainstorm. Tom says it was skitting about in the thicket of wild plum and sumac.

Our backyard feeders hosted a grackle May 6. According to Reinhard Jockel, grackles used to nest in Newton, but they're relatively uncommon now.

The Hotline even got a long-distance report from former BAS member Linda Rawlins, who lives in Boulder, Wyoming (south of Pinedale) and commutes to Big Piney weekdays. On May 12 while driving home, she saw two black-bellied plovers on the New Fork River, in a flock of other waterfowl. "Hello to everyone," Linda says.

Reinhard went camping in the Mahoganies at Blacksmith Fork May 1-3 and reports hearing poorwills and dusky flycatchers, a green-tailed towhee (which he later saw), a probable Say's phoebe and lots of different warblers. He also saw Audubon's warblers, fox, song and vesper sparrows.

For the "firsts" report, Reinhard checks in with house wrens April 26 in Blacksmith Fork at the "Boar Hole," lazuli buntings in Providence, and chipping sparrows, yellow warbler, orange-crowned warblers and a broadtailed hummingbird, all in Logan Canyon the same day. He saw Bullock's orioles on the Providence bench May 1.

The boat landing on Valley View highway is alive with marsh wrens—and Logan Canyon is full of warblers. I saw a black-headed grosbeak at Guinavah May 10, and western kingbirds, brown-headed cowbirds, savannah sparrows and a mourning dove and a Forester's tern near Benson the same day.

Keep track of your sightings through the summer and call the Hotline when you want to share your excitement. We'll pass the word along, and see you in *The Stilt* in September.

— Nancy Williams
753-6268

PS: Occasionally we of the word persuasion get the wrong one stuck in our subconscious, and it makes for erroneous (but really interesting) entries in the Hotline. Last month's word was "sage"—it was not a sage sparrow we saw in the marsh, and certainly not a sage grouse that boomed all night long for our son's camping pleasure. The correct birds are song sparrow and ruffed grouse. Our sincere apologies to any who were over excited at such reports.

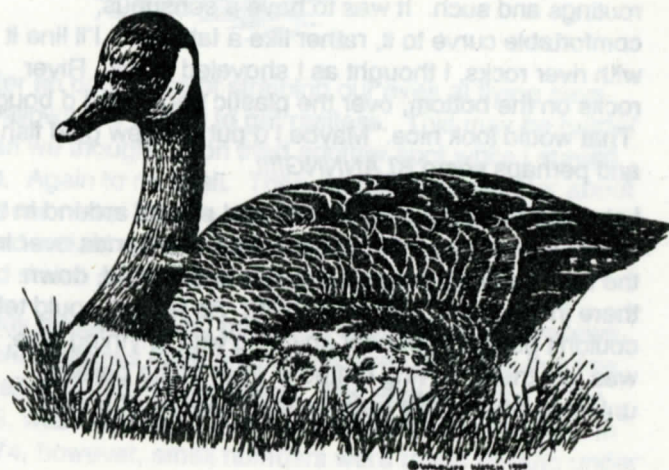
FLASH! As *The Stilt* staggered to press, Nancy Williams called to report seeing a crowd of about 60 sandhill cranes cavorting in a field near the turnoff to Mendon on Valley View Highway. Son Patrick and daughter Anna witnessed a crane version of Mardi Gras as the stately creatures jumped and played, tossing tender edibles into the air. This was at sunset on May 17.

FAME AND A NICE HAT AWAIT DILIGENT LOCAL BIRDERS

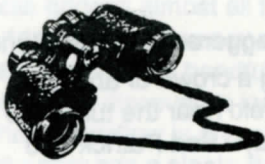
The Cache 200 Club is designed to encourage people to do more local birding and to keep more careful records. Persons who see 100 species of birds within Cache County over the years will be recognized in *The Stilt*. Those who identify 150 species will receive a National Audubon Society shirt patch. Those who see 200 species will receive a nice baseball cap with Cache 200 Club-Bridgerland Audubon Society on it. Just let Al Stokes know for proper recognition.

Jane Kidd now has 164 species. Karl and Karen Launchbaugh are about to move to Texas, but they both aspire to join the Cache 200 circle before leaving. They are both in the high 190s now. All-time high members are Larry and Ron Ryel, Keith Archibald and Jan Young with some 230 species.

— Al Stokes



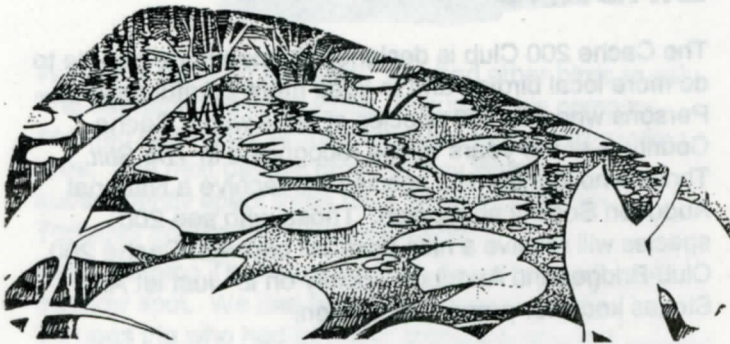
Contributed by Jane O Keefe



ADVENTURES IN BIRDLAND

The Vision, The Reality—The Pond

There's something about the outdoors, even the outdoors located in one's backyard, that seduces one into throwing caution to the winds. Also intelligence. You may recall the result of an attempt I made a year ago to construct a pond. I shattered a perfectly good pick and produced only a deridable dog-bone-shaped hole. I gave up, utterly defeated.



But that was then. A new year came. It was time to try again. I bought a new pick. One can't cure dumb.

Actually, digging a hole—even in my yard— isn't too difficult, if you do it in the rain. A little soggy, but possible. I'll admit to a little discouragement when none of the birds for whom I was digging this monster were anywhere around to cheer me on. They're waterproof; they could have shown some team spirit.

But I *would* have a pond. I planned it carefully, taking accurate note of sprinkler locations, telephone cable routings and such. It was to have a sensuous, comfortable curve to it, rather like a fat bean. I'll line it with river rocks, I thought as I shoveled muck. River rocks on the bottom, over the plastic pool liner I'd bought. That would look nice. Maybe I'd put in a few gold fish, and perhaps some *KLANNNG!!!!*

I stopped vibrating after a time, and pawed around in the water, learning as I did so that when one bends over in the rain, it rains *into* one's hat. Lo and behold, down there in the muck, I found a PIPE! As far as I could tell, it couldn't possibly connect anything with anything else; it was just there, having drifted in from some parallel universe where they have twisted senses of humor.

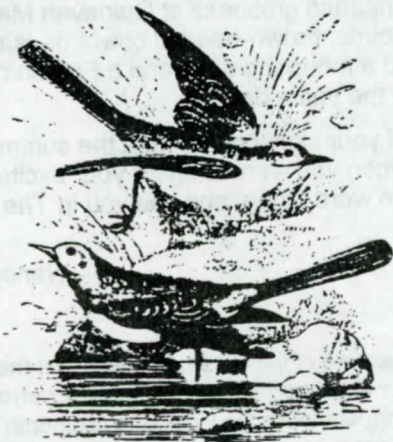
I splooged to one side and dug on. After all, I decided, there was still enough room to have a nicely-sized pond. After all, I decided, the birds wouldn't care if it looked like a soggy taco with a bite out of it, taken, say, by a St. Bernard. After all, I decided, in nature there are few regular shapes. Most things in nature are randomly shaped, and look *KLONNNNG!!!!*

If the first pipe led nowhere from no place, the second, which crossed it at right angles, led back again. Why, I wondered angrily, ME?! Was this a test? Was the god of black comedy using me as an example?

The best thing to do, I decided, was to take a break and think it over. I turned toward the house and rammed the shovel into the mud. It counced out. I rammed it in again, and it bounced out again. Suspecting demons, I reached down and felt beneath the water. I found a root. A long, smooth, flexible root. A root that, when I pulled it up for inspection, said in silver letters, "Cleveland Telephone Cable Co." Words cannot express the words I used to express myself.

I, however, in the lofty tradition of the irredeemably stupid, persevered. I dug. I schlepped mud. I would not be defeated by a mere universe. And eventually, it paid off. I have a pond. It's a hole in my yard with a shape that absolutely defies description. It's filled with blue plastic and a few rocks and innumerable curses and lots of pipes and telephone cables passing through to different dimensions. But the birds like it. Siskins and finches come to bathe and sing and gossip and tell jokes, and today a stunning western tanager complimented me on it. Probably because it doesn't look like a dog bone.

— TJG



BARRENS REPORT

Late April-early May

April 19 — My son, Ron, Fredrik Norrsell, USU graduate student from Sweden, and I were surprised to see virtually no water in the ponds. In Pond 1 a small area on the east side had some avocets, cinnamon teals, mallards, a mixed group of small shorebirds: two semipalmated plovers, two Baird's sandpipers, and one each western and pectoral sandpiper.



The second pond had a slim strip of water on the south edge and a larger area in the southeast corner. A fair number of avocets and stilts fed in the shallows, accompanied by 19 lesser yellowlegs, ten willets, and one black-bellied plover. As we adjusted our viewing position, a snipe flushed from the marsh in front of us. Beyond the water, a lone Bonaparte's gull and two long-billed curlews poked about.

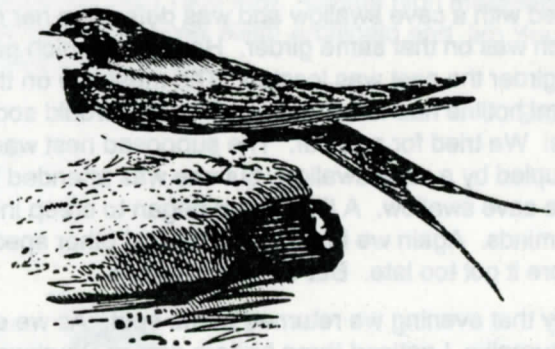
Pond 3 was completely dry. Several pairs of cranes were scattered about in the marshes and fields. Only a few pairs of geese were visible. Marsh wrens and savannah sparrows called from along the edge of the dike and a lone cliff swallow flew over.

May 14 — The area had received a nice shower the past evening, but it did little to restore the water levels in the ponds. A savannah sparrow called as I approached the first pond. Only a narrow strip of water remained on the east side and it appeared devoid of birds. I had doused my clothing with a new insect repellent and I actually had mixed feelings about the lack of mosquitoes. Maybe it worked so well they cleared out—dream on! The second pond was also nearly dry. The southwest corner had a small pool with a couple of avocets, a killdeer and a cinnamon teal. Overhead 27 ibises flew north and a willet called from somewhere. There was more activity in two ponds to the west of the dike. The closer had seven cinnamon teal and two stilts, while the farther had ten avocets and seven stilts. Around the marsh area five pairs of cranes fed. Marsh wrens and redwinged and yellow-headed blackbirds were also present.

— Larry Ryel

ON THE TRAIL OF THE BAHAMA SWALLOW

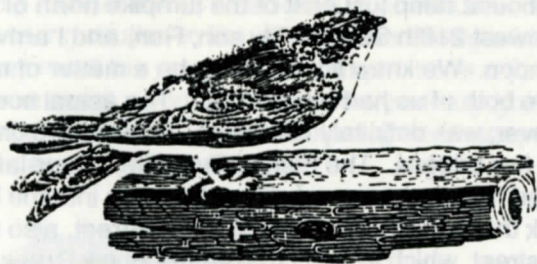
This bird, the Bahama swallow, sounded like a "gimmee"—one you couldn't miss. The Miami Birding Hotline report for Saturday morning, April 25, stated, "The Bahama swallow and cave swallows can be seen flying about the bridge over Black Creek at Southwest 216th Street just east of the turnpike. Park along the northbound ramp just east of the turnpike north of Southwest 216th Street." My son, Ron, and I arrived that afternoon. We knew it would only be a matter of minutes before both of us had a new "lifer." The actual scene, however, was definitely confusing. In close proximity were five bridges. The Florida Turnpike, a four-lane divided highway, crossed a canal leading into the Black Creek then crossed Southwest 216th Street, also a four lane street, which in turn crossed the Black Creek. The suggested parking site was covered with litter. We drove around a bit, and finding no suitable street parking, opted to leave our rental car in a condo complex across the creek. It seemed a nice-enough spot. There were plenty of empty parking spaces and nearby a couple was leisurely washing their car. Next we had to decide where to look for the bird. We had heard that it was roosting under one of the bridges and decided that the best strategy would be to watch the most "logical" (to us) roosting spot. This was the westernmost turnpike bridge over the canal, where large numbers of swallows were flying in and out.



After an hour or so of straining our eyes at flying cave swallows, we began to get restless. This may be harder than we thought. Ron tried another spot while I stayed put. Again to no avail. Then we began to wonder about the car. After all, this was Miami. Most of the neighborhood looked rather "depressed." Suppose someone had stolen our car and all our belongings?

Many birders coming here also seek the cave swallows. Cave swallows have always occurred in Texas in a few small-and-hard-to-get caves. The easiest place in the U.S. was Carlsbad Cavern in southern New Mexico. In 1974, however, small numbers were found nesting under highway bridges near Uvalde, Texas. The birds have gradually spread until they can be found under many

Texas bridges almost all the way to El Paso. But in Florida cave swallows were considered "accidental." There were only a handful of observations until this colony was discovered less than a decade ago. The Bahama swallow is a very rare visitor to southern Florida. Five years ago a single Bahama swallow was discovered here among the cave swallows. This individual has returned each summer ever since. Local birders named him "Bertram." Most of the nation's elite birders had long since added Bertram to their lists.



We finally gave up for today. We had other birds to get. The car hadn't been touched. Actually, this complex seemed quite prosperous compared to the surrounding area. The next day we drove to Key West and subsequently spent three days birding in the Dry Tortugas aboard the Yankee Freedom.

Early morning Thursday, April 30, found us back at the swallow spot. We had talked to someone on the Tortugas trip who had talked to someone who had actually seen Bertram and told us exactly which bridge and on which girder of that bridge he roosted. Furthermore, he informed us that Bertram was now paired with a cave swallow and was defending her nest, which was on that same girder. He told us which part of the girder the nest was located. The message on the Miami hotline had not changed. The bird would soon be ours! We tried for an hour. The supposed nest was occupied by a cave swallow, but she was attended by a male cave swallow. A little doubt began to creep in to our minds. Again we had to leave to find other species before it got too late. But we would return.

Early that evening we returned to the spot. As we exited the turnpike, I noticed three birders across Southwest 216th Street. As we turned the corner we discovered the whole area under the double bridges was occupied by bird watchers. We recognized many as having been on the Tortugas' trip with us. They had signed up for a Miami birding tour afterward. I also recognized the leaders, including an old acquaintance, Wes Biggs, one of Florida's most knowledgeable birders. We parked behind their van on the shoulder just off the entrance ramp. This was going to be really easy this time! With all these binoculars looking at every swallow there would be no chance for failure. Different birders kept showing up. I suppose there were 30 of us in all. Several from the tour spread out to check the other bridges. We stayed close to Wes. A couple of police cars passed

and stared at the group—probably had never seen anything like this before. Local residents also came out to see what was going on. Several motorists, exiting the turnpike, slowed to tell nearby birders that we shouldn't be here. That this was a very dangerous neighborhood. Sure! Didn't look very dangerous to us.

Suddenly a dozen police cars appeared with sirens blaring and lights flashing. Several blocked the Southwest 216th Street bridge. A police helicopter appeared overhead, making tight circles over the "nice" condo complex across the Black Creek. An army of officers with guns drawn advanced on the complex. More spectators showed up. We couldn't get close to the action nor did any of us want to. Wes didn't seem too surprised. Last May he was shot one evening while sitting in his car as he parked along a road under a light writing up his birding notes. His left arm was shattered by a bullet from an AK-47. After a number of operations, he now has limited use of his arm.

Just as suddenly as they appeared, the police, police cars and helicopter disappeared. We never heard what happened. The local spectators drifted away. Several in the birding tour were getting fatigued and were taken to their motel. Most of the other birders also left. Wes was put in charge of the remaining tour members. We also stayed. Wes told us that he had never failed to see Bertram in the past five years. But I thought he definitely began to look worried. Many swallows began to appear high in the sky heading back to their roosting areas. This might be the moment of truth.

A small group from the tour approached from our right. They seemed to be carrying something. It appeared round, about the size of a medium pancake, but much thinner. I had a sinking feeling. As they held it up to Wes, we could see blues and greens. They appeared to be coming from feathers. Close examination revealed a deeply forked tail. Wes made the final pronouncement—it was Bertram! He had been dead for some time, maybe about the time we arrived in Miami. Wes kept his record intact—he never failed to see Bertram. Our record wasn't nearly as good.

— Larry Ryel

LOGAN CANYON UPDATE

It is looking as if the Environmental Impact Statement for the Logan Canyon highway proposal will not be released for several more weeks or months.

A Logan Canyon Task Force and a small steering committee have been formed to assemble expertise and to coordinate efforts to protect the canyon.

It will be important to keep public pressure on the Utah Department of Transportation, so please keep those letters to the editor and to UDOT coming.

Bruce Pendery, Steve Flint, Scott George, Jack Greene, Ron Hellstern, Tom Lyon and Nadene Steinhoff are meeting regularly with Lynn Zollinger, the project engineer, with Dave Baumgartner from the Forest Service acting as facilitator. We also met with Jim Naegle in May. Our hope is that we can break up the 10- to 20-year project into segments, with an agreement that certain features will be deferred until later.

The silent vigil was attended by 300 to 400 people and was covered by state and local newspaper, TV and radio. *High Country News* is expected to do a story in May or June.

Over 30 presentations have been made to civic, business, recreational, and environmental groups. Recent presentations have focused on the details of the Conservationist's Alternative, and presented this alternative as the solution to enhancing the road's safety while preserving scenery and habitat. Hundreds of informational packets have been handed out.

Many letters have been written to UDOT and will be copied and delivered to offices throughout the state during early summer. Petitions are circulating.

If you can help with any aspect of the canyon protection effort please call Nadene at 753-0497, or Bruce Pendery at 750-0253. If you would like to help with providing technical expertise call Scott George at 753-3918. He is assembling information on the highway's potential impact on safety, wildlife, fisheries, vegetation and scenery.

UDOT's address again is:

James Naegle
Utah Department of Transportation
4501 South 2700 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119.

Please send copies of your letter to:

Protect Logan Canyon
198 South 300 West
Logan, Utah 84321.

— Nadene Steinhoff

CANYON HEROES AND HEROINES

I cannot express enough gratitude and admiration for the many individuals who are working behind the scenes for the protection of our canyon. Immense amounts of time, talent and energy have been pouring into this effort. I would like to recognize the superhuman efforts of **Jack Spence, Rudy Lukez, Bruce Pendery, Steve Flint and Tom Lyon**, who have laid the groundwork for all of us to build on. Special thanks is due to **Scott Smith, Bob Bissland and Jane O Keefe** for their artistic contributions, and to **Scott George, Max White, Kevin Kobe, Jim Vandygriff and Keith Shaw**, for energy above and beyond the call of duty.

Other heroes and heroines of the effort include:

VIGIL PARTICIPANTS

Chris Carlson
Jack Greene
Spencer Guthrie
Celia Peterson
Carol Sharp
Dave Sharp
Dov Siporin

VIGIL SAFETY

Barr Bentley
Irma Moon
Marvin Moon
Nancy Roberts
Lana White
Mical White
Shelly Williams

SUPPORT

Val Grant
Karla Hansen
Alexis Kelner
Marjorie Lewis
Kayo Robertson
Sue Robertson
Mary Bedingfield-Smith
Gordon Steinhoff
Jim White
Nancy Williams

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

Jeff Appell
Keith Archibald
Eric Cannon
Don Cundy
Roger Coulombe
Jim Dyer
Ron Hellstern
Ron Lanner
Chris Sands
Ken Theis

VIGIL REFRESHMENTS AND TRASH

Jaynan Chancellor
Russ Chancellor
Jim McWhorter
Sue McWhorter
Pam Neuber
Bill Oblock
Diane Browning Oblock
René Walker

VIGIL PUBLICITY

Jamie Boggiano
Mae Coover
Merv Coover
Rebecca Echols
Betsy Heffernan

Special thanks to Chip Sibbensen, the Logan Forest Service, the Sheriff's department and the Highway Patrol for assistance with the vigil.

My great apologies for any names that have been inadvertently left out.

— Nadene Steinhoff

LOGAN CANYON FUND GROWS

The work to protect Logan Canyon goes on. During the last month the following supporters contributed to the Give-a-Mile campaign: Steve and Janie MacFarlane, Reinhard Jockel, Pat Easterling and Brenda Chung, Lynn Bornholdt, Christopher and Diane Terry, Alice Johnson, William Moore, Kayo Robertson, Kate Boyes, The William Siglers, Howard Deer, James and Kathleen Kennedy, Debra and LeRoy Beasley.

If you would like to contribute, send your donation to: Susan Robertson, Treasurer, Bridgerland Audubon Society, 1780 East 1400 North, Logan, Utah 84321.

CRANE HEARING IN HEBER CITY

June 26, 1 p.m.

This year the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources is asking the Wildlife Board to grant them 160 permits to kill sandhill cranes in Cache and Rich Counties early this September. This number is over half the number of resident breeding birds. The formula used to determine the number of permits does not take into account the cranes that we know are poached in Cache County every year of the extremely low survivorship of newly fledged cranes.

This hunt is very unpopular with the public at large, particularly those of us who are struggling so hard to preserve wildlife from the rapid urbanization of our area. The hunt is put on for a tiny handful of hunters. Every year more and more permittees do not show up on hunt day, especially in Cache County. That is because people apply for permits hoping to get a chance to prevent a crane from being shot.

Last year the newest member of the Wildlife Board, who is from Cedar City, courageously voted "no" on the hunt. He stated his reasons thus: "I see a lot of people moving to Utah from places that have no wildlife left. They like to see these large birds and other wildlife. We shouldn't be putting extra pressure on their populations by hunting them."

In order to stop the hunt, we need to have two more board members convinced to vote "no."

If you care about our cranes, please attend the hearing in Heber City where you will have the opportunity to tell the board what you think about the crane hunt. The board members are responsible, thoughtful people, but if they do not hear from you what can they assume but that the hunt is okay with you?

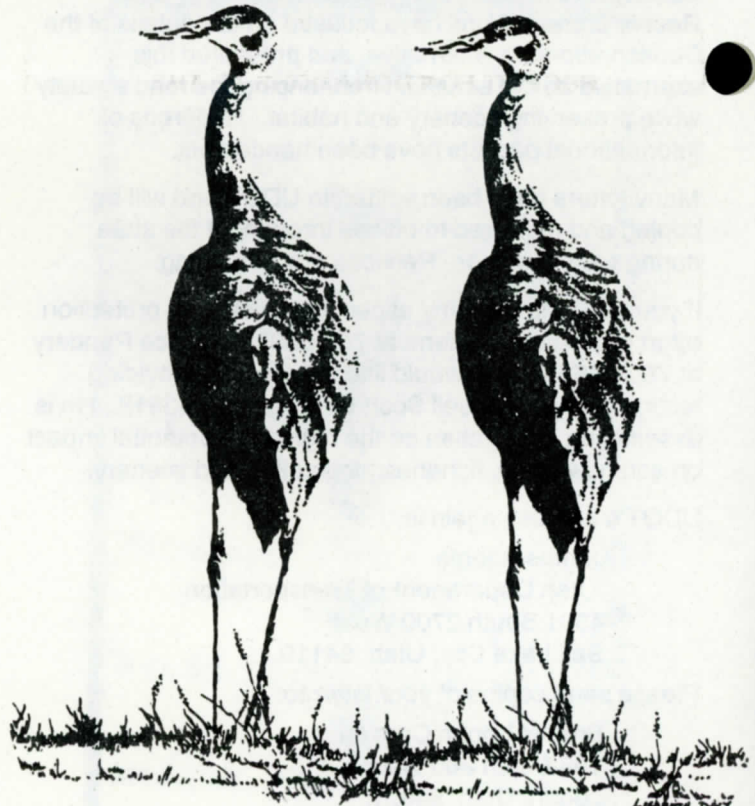
If you cannot go to the hearing please write two letters to state your objections:

1. Tim Provan, Director, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, 1596 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84116.

2. Mr. Bob Valentine, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board, 520 East 100 North, Brigham City, UT 84302.

At the Heber City hearing, they will also discuss the early Canada goose hunt, which is controversial this year because many farmers think it does not work. They think the small number of hunters shooting early scare the geese out of the valley, making geese unavailable during the regular goose hunt. Then they come back with a vengeance the next year. Bridgerland Audubon has never taken a position on the early goose hunt. The situation is complicated by the fact that a lot of goose depredation damage on crops is unfairly attributed to cranes.

Alice Lindahl, Conservation Chair 753-7744. Please call me for more information and car pooling from Logan to Heber.



Greater Sandhill Crane

AUDUBON YARD SALE

July 6, Saturday 8 am - 1 pm

Don't forget to bring over that stuff you have been saving for us to the 4th annual BAS yard sale to be held at Sue Robertson's. Address: 1780 East 1400 North in Logan. Call her at 752-4598 to arrange a time to take your things over. If you need to have things picked up, call Alice at 753-7744.

All of the money we make will be used for the salary of our lobbyist at the Utah Legislature, so you know your donations are having maximum impact for environmental issues. Last year we made \$777.

Now that BAS has tax exempt status, you can deduct the value of these goods as a charitable deduction if you itemize deductions on your tax return. To make things easy for you, just fill out the receipt below when you bring your items to Susan's. Alice will sign it and get it back to you.

We hope to see you all there as buyers, too!

RECEIPT FOR DONATIONS TO THE AUDUBON YARD SALE

Name of Donor _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Description of Item	Present Value
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
TOTAL Value \$ _____	

Verified: _____

Alice M. Lindahl, Bridgerland Audubon Conservation Chair

Date _____

WORKING FOR WETLANDS

Beginning July 1991, I have worked as Utah Wetlands Coordinator for National Audubon in close cooperation with the Coordinating Council. The mission is to preserve and enhance Utah's wetlands.

I would love to talk in detail about our efforts and accomplishments for this year. For now, let's just say we've worked on wetlands education and policy, as well as specific habitat improvement projects.

The following are a few highlights that Audubon members should look forward to for next year.

1. Continued efforts for restoration and enhancement of the Bear River Refuge, as well as Audubon's cooperative efforts for a wetland restoration area on Unit One.
 2. The Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network dedication for the Great Salt Lake will be August 1.
 3. The *Salt Lake Tribune* will continue their fine series on the Great Salt Lake on the fourth Monday of every month in the recreation section.
 4. A guide to Utah wetlands should be available by September, perhaps sooner.
 5. Hopefully, 100 acres on the south shore of the Great Salt Lake will be transferred to National Audubon and field trips to this area can take place.
 6. National Audubon may get involved in owning and/or managing other wetland sites in Utah such as the Salt Lake City International Airport mitigation site.
 7. The likely passage of CUP means literally millions of dollars for wetlands. This includes \$14 million for Great Salt Lake and \$17 million for Utah Lake.
 8. There will be continued comments on losses and potential losses of wetlands and a training session on how to actively help save wetlands will occur by next June.
 9. Hopefully, positive federal legislation such as HR 4255-The Wetlands Reform Act by Rep. Don Edwards will pass, and the proposed revisions to the wetlands delineation manual will be stopped.
- Utah wetlands are receiving much attention. Now, and in the next few years, it is very, very important to preserve and enhance them. Feel free to call me at 355-8110 if you have any comments or want to get more involved.

— Wayne Martinson
Utah Wetlands Coordinator

Mervin & Mae Coover
435 Canyon Rd
Providence UT 84332

Nonprofit Organization
BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 104
Logan, Utah

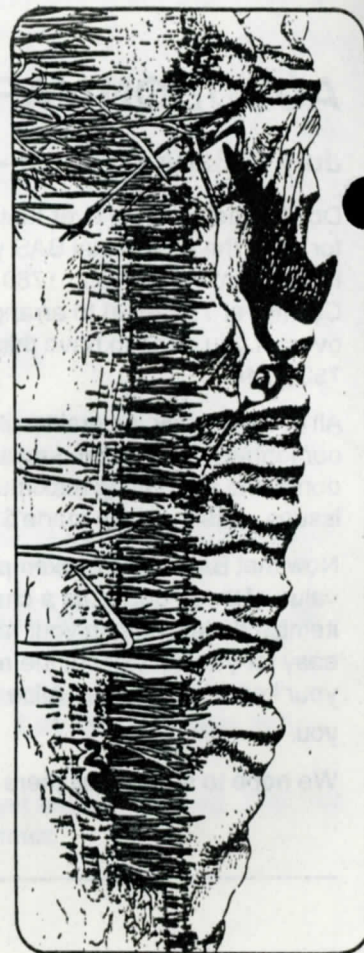
The Bridgerland Audubon Society meets the second Thursday of each month, October through May, in the Meeting Room of the new Logan City Building, 255 N. Main. Meetings start at 7:30 p.m. The BAS Planning Committee meets the following Wednesday, October through May, in the Logan Library at 7:00 p.m. Everyone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

President	Bruce Pendery, 750-0253
Vice President	Dawn Holzer, 753-6047
Secretary	Tom Gordon, 752-6561
Treasurer	Susan Robertson, 752-4598
Conservation	Alice Lindahl, 753-7744
Education	Kayo Robertson, 752-3944
Membership	Al Stokes, 752-2702
Field Trips	Al Stokes, 752-2702
Newsletter	Pat Gordon, 752-6561
Circulation	Tom Gordon, 752-6561
Publicity	
Hospitality	
Hotline	Nancy Williams, 753-6268
Recycling	Marvin & Irma Moon, 753-4698
Legislation	
Trustees	
1988-91:	Ron Ryel, 753-6077; John Sigler, 753-5879
1989-92:	Larry Ryel, 753-8479
	Bob Atwood, 752-9284, Office, 753-0012
1990-93:	John Barnes, 563-3910; Rebecca Echols, 753-2367;
	Richard Mueller, 752-5637

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.

THE STILT

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



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
7XCHA

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