

THE STILT

BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

Volume 20, No. 7

Upper Northern Utah

March 1992

FOR LOVE OF LOGAN CANYON

When out-of-town friends visit, where do you take them "show off" Cache Valley? When you ski or want to look for warblers, what's your favorite destination? As often as not, the answer is obvious: Logan Canyon.

With the overwhelming aesthetic, recreational and ecological values of Logan Canyon in mind, Bridgerland Audubon has focused a great deal of effort on Logan Canyon in the last year. Our goal is simple: We want to ensure that proposed road construction in the canyon does not destroy its values and charms.

Since release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Logan Canyon in December 1990, not a month has gone by when we were not engaged in some effort to ensure that the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) pursues a relatively benign road construction option in Logan Canyon.

Our efforts have met with some success. Under UDOT's current preferred alternative, about half of the most ecologically sensitive portion of the canyon (the section from Right Hand Fork to the cattle guard near the Tony Grove turnoff) will be retained on the current width and alignment. Beaver Creek will receive better protection than originally proposed.

Nevertheless, the road construction alternative proposed by UDOT (and the Forest Service!!) is still massive in scope. I will not go into details here, but after a day spent in Logan Canyon with measuring tape in hand, several of us concluded that if UDOT's preferred alternative is implemented, Logan Canyon as we know and love it will be destroyed. To prevent this,

Bridgerland Audubon is redoubling its efforts to protect Logan Canyon. We have hired Nadene Steinhoff as our Logan Canyon Coordinator. When the Final Environmental Impact Statement is released (about March 15) she will launch a massive public involvement campaign designed to make sure UDOT, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Forest Service are very aware of the widespread public support for protecting Logan Canyon. Furthermore, we have engaged Salt Lake attorney Jeff Appel to ensure these agencies are aware of, and meet, the numerous legal requirements for environmental protection that apply to Logan Canyon.

Obviously, Bridgerland Audubon intends to "fight the good fight" for Logan Canyon. But we will not be successful without your help. Volunteerism and personal commitment are what will determine Logan Canyon's fate. If you are willing to work for Logan Canyon in any way (for example, donations of time, expertise, or money), please call Nadene Steinhoff (753-0497) or Bruce Pendery (750-0253). We can use your help.

— Bruce Pendery

INSIDE

UTAH'S THREATENED OWL NEEDS YOUR
LETTER OF SUPPORT BY MARCH 3! page 5

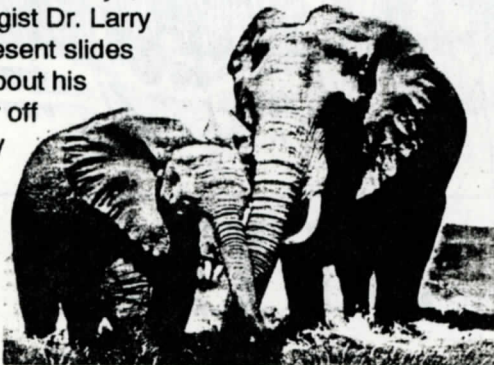
CALENDAR

Tuesday, March 3. Deadline for Comments on the Mexican Spotted Owl. See article on page 5.

Thursday, March 12. General Meeting. 7:30 p.m. in the Logan City Meeting Room, 255 North Main. "Birds and Big Game of Kenya, Africa."

Wildlife biologist Dr. Larry Ryel, will present slides and speak about his travels to far off

Africa. Larry attended a three-week bird- and big game-watching expedition in the



Masai Mara Game Reserve, Nairobi and Meru National parks, Kakamega National Forest, and many lakes throughout the Rift Valley region in Kenya. Featured animals include an array of lions, zebras, wildebeests, elephants and giraffes, plus eagles, other raptors, hornbills, flamingos and MORE.

Monday, March 15. Stilt Deadline. Share your adventures and observations, local or far-flung, with your compatriots, other *Stilt* readers. We're a gently bunch, not hard to please. Interests extend from worms to winds; if it intrigued you, others of your ilk will enjoy learning about it. Send or deliver materials to Pat Gordon, 718 North 200 East, Logan, Utah 84321. Or call 752-6561.

Wednesday, March 17. Planning Meeting. Our regular monthly confab of committee heads, board members and officers will convene at Bio-Resources, 135 East Center, at 7 p.m. Any interested persons are encouraged to attend.

Thursday, March 26. Water Conservation Program. To encourage conservation of water through better knowledge of yard care needs, the Logan City Sewer and Water Board and Cache County Extension will present a program on "Xeriscaping and Watering Techniques." Learn how to care for your yard with minimal watering, and how to plan your landscape with species that require less water. This program will help all homeowners avoid wasting water (and money) on their yards. 7 p.m. in Logan City Council Chambers.

Saturday-Sunday, April 4-5. Retreat of the Great Salt Lake. BAS hosts a weekend get-together for all Utah's Audubon chapters. See article on page 6.

Friday and Saturday, April 24 and 25. Eco-Fair. Cache Valley Mall Earth Day Celebration. Article on page 6.

FIELD TRIPS

Saturday, March 7. Eagle Watch in Willard Canyon. Watch bald eagles as they fly into their roost in Willard Canyon south of Brigham City. Eagles are seen from the gravel pit above Willard. But most hikers will want to make the somewhat rigorous 1,000-foot climb to a lookout for closer views of eagles and other raptors. Spring comes early on the sunny south-facing slopes with mountain bluebirds, butterflies and some wild flowers in bloom. For those remaining below there are easy walks on the level.

Leave at 11 a.m. from the southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot and return at your convenience. All welcome. No reservations needed. Car pooling available. Bring a lunch. For further information call Al Stokes at 752-2702.

Saturday, March 15. NEW TRIP. Eagles at the Refuge. A close-up look at some of the 500 or so bald eagles on the Bear River Wildlife Refuge where they feed during the day from the dikes. Spring waterfowl migration will also be underway.

Leave from the southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot at 8 a.m. and return in early afternoon. Bring lunch and spotting scope. Dress warmly. Bear River Refuge staff will take us into portions of the refuge normally closed to the public where the eagles are undisturbed. Trip leader will be Larry Ryel. If in doubt about the weather, call 753-8479.

Saturday, March 21. Spring waterfowl migration. Leave at 1 p.m. from the southwest corner of Fred Meyer's and return by 4:30 p.m. Visit the sewage lagoons and nearby marshes to see hundreds of ducks and geese. Sandhill cranes will be back and the great blue herons will be nest-building along Mendon Road.

Saturday-Sunday, April 10-11. Grouse Courtship Camping Trip. The annual trip to observe sharp-tailed and sage grouse at Curlew National Grasslands. Camp at Curlew Campground and along the shores of Stone Reservoir just north of Snowville, a two-hour drive west of Logan. Get up early Saturday morning to observe the grouse. After a leisurely breakfast we will visit several places to observe nesting waterfowl and raptors. Return home early Saturday afternoon. We will stay at a developed campground and have an illustrated talk about grouse Friday evening. This trip by reservations only—limited to 30 persons. Call Al Stokes at 752-2702 for reservations and further information.

PUT THESE ON YOUR CALENDAR—Details later.

Saturday-Sunday, May 2-3. Second Annual Camping Trip on Antelope Island.

Saturday and Sunday, May 9 and 10. The famous canoe trips down the Bear River.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

Jan Bakker, Logan
Eric R. Cannon, Logan
U. Hill, Wellsville
Pam Krannitz, Logan
Heather Lauer, Logan
Mrs. Donald Newman, Logan
Tim Slocum, Logan
Timothy Veenendaal, Logan
Dennis Witbeck, Logan
Laura Hartt, Logan
Bradley R. Kropp, Logan
Joanna Leary, Logan

THANKS, RENEWING MEMBERS!

Joyce Anderson, Logan
Robert Atwood, Logan
Dianne Browning, Providence
John W. Carlisle, M.D., Logan
Norbert V. Debyle, Logan
W. Bryan Dixon and Jean M. Lown, Logan
Gary Drew, Logan
Gail Duering, Brigham City
Rebecca Echols, Providence
A. Hofmeister, Logan
Mr. Paul B. Holden, Providence
R.M.R. Holdredge, Logan
Mr. Reinhard A. Jockel, Logan
Douglas A. Johnson, Logan
Mr. Karl Launchbaugh, Logan
Carol Loveland, Logan
Irma and Marvin Moon, Mendon
Richard J. Mueller, Logan
Mr. John N. Ream, Jr., Providence
Mrs. Rodney Ream, Dingle, Idaho
Sue Robertson, Logan
Mr. Rex E. Robinson, Logan
Mr. Robert H. Schmidt, Logan
Thomas J. Schroeder, Wellsville
Alison Thorne, Logan
Dennis Wenger, Logan
Diana F. Wittkopf, Smithfield

Those named above joined or rejoined National Audubon Society during December, 1991. During that time, 20 memberships expired. Of the twelve new memberships, nine were generated by Bridgerland Audubon. When the chapter recruits a new member, \$15 of the \$20 introductory fee returns to the chapter. Therefore, BAS received \$135 for these new members. For renewing members, the chapter receives \$5.50. The 26 renewals brought \$148.50. Membership fees tend to cover the cost of producing and mailing *The Stilt*.



Signs of Spring

A red-winged blackbird came to our feeder February 9, a flash of bright color in the monochromatic landscape, looking for all the world like it had valentines to deliver tucked under its wings.

In a way, it did. Blackbirds at bird feeders are a sure sign that spring is really on its way—and that's the best valentine I can imagine after the 1,000-day winter inversion we've endured. (Oh all right, it only *seemed* that long.)

Spring migration began in early February to the best of our knowledge (these little guys never file flight plans, but we catch them refueling here and there). Remember—your mission, when you spot them at take-off, landing or camping overnight, is to call the Hotline and let us know the who, what, when and where. Next month we start the annual "Firsts" list.

Interesting calls this month included a report from Ellen Klomps, who saw what she thinks was a gyrfalcon January 30. She was driving on 250 East and about 400 South in Smithfield at dusk when the white bird with dark carpal patches flew low across the road, in front of her car. "It definitely had falcon wings," she said.

On January 27, John Barnes spent an hour observing two juvenile mountain lions in a nearby canyon. (For their protection, he declines further information on location.)

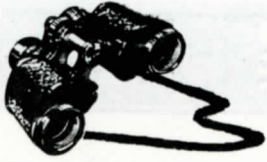
Chris Bentley, who works in landscape architecture and environmental planning at USU, enjoyed watching a flock of about 75 cedar waxwings dine on juniper berries outside the Fine Arts Center February 16. Winter is the season for bands of the bright little nomads to wander from feast to feast. Waxwings love to stuff themselves on berries—Chris recalled once rescuing a flock in San Luis Obispo that had overdone their partying on fermented berries and were lying in a drunken stupor on the lawn.

Pat and Tom Gordon saw a couple of bald eagles visiting Pete the Pelican (on Valley View Highway) February 2. They were sharing a fish banquet with some crows.

February 25. LaDon Jorgensen reported sighting a white magpie on 200 South in Providence, about half a mile from the highway. Her friend, Mark, who lives near there, thinks there are two albinos who hatched last spring.

I've had one dedicated pine siskin mixed in with the many goldfinches and sparrows at the feeder. What's up with you?

— Nancy Williams
753-6268



ADVENTURES IN BIRDLAND

The English Major's Revenge

A mythical bird, the widgeon,
Like a phoenix, or a roc;
Unlike the familiar pigeon,
It's nothing at all but talk.

No matter what Webster maintains,
In his unabridged book of words;
Though with English he takes great pains,
It means nothing at all to the birds.

The mother tongue does not matter:
Ornithologists have decreed
In all of their birdy chatter
That the widgeon shall be un-deed!

It's true! That small duck in the marsh
With snow-white (or yellow) pate
Is not a widgeon, by garsh,
But a *widgeon*, sure as fate!

Now ask yourself: why'd they do it?
Why did they spell it "widgeon"?
Pshaw, you already knew it:
To make it consistent with "pigeon"!



To further support this notion
(and consistency's nothing new),
They could vote on and carry the motion
That instead of "quack," it says "coo"!

Consistency can be foolish,
As Whitman once observed,
And I would rather be mulish
And see English properly served.

(For consistency, you'd cross a bridge
To belabor with a *blugeon*
Someone robbing your *'frige*
And I'd be an old *curmugeon*!)

The field guide is not the law, though,
And so, when no one can see,
I'll lay spelling faux pas low:
This will spell "widgeon" with D!

— TJG



PHEASANT FEEDERS

If you're wandering around and happen upon a pallet-sized platform surrounded with wire fencing, containing corn cobs with or without corn attached, you may wonder what the deal is. If you are a pheasant, or bird of similar epicurean style, you will rejoice, because you know a good deal when you see one.

In November of 1991, volunteers from the Northern Utah Chapter of Pheasants Forever, other local conservation groups, and the Utah Division of Wildlife

Resources, established 22 corn crib feeders at locations on the west side of Cache Valley. Most of the feeders are near Cutler Reservoir property.

This is a research effort to study the use of supplemental feeders for pheasants and other birds. To assist UDWR in collecting information on each of the feeders, PF and other groups have agreed to make observations and reports on a regular basis throughout the winter. We would appreciate help in accomplishing this task from any birders in the valley or from anyone who is out and about this winter.

Copies of maps, data collection sheets, and a feeder location key are available from Val at Bio-Resources or from John Sigler. If you have questions about the information, please feel free to contact John Sigler at 753-8933 (work) or 753-5879 (home). A few feeders have been placed on private land to which the landowners have restricted access. Please note these spots and stay clear of them. When you have completed the survey sheets, return them to Val or John. If you run out of survey sheets, please feel free to duplicate blanks or contact Val or John for additional copies. We appreciate your assistance in this effort.

— John Sigler

LETTER ALERT!

Comments Due March 3 on the Mexican Spotted Owl

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed designating the Mexican spotted owl as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. The owl inhabits forested mountains and canyons from the southern Rocky Mountains in Colorado and the Colorado Plateau in **Southern Utah**, southward through Arizona, New Mexico, western Texas, and into Mexico.

Its population is estimated at less than 2,200, compared with 9,000 for the northern spotted owl. The agency recognizes loss of habitat due to logging as the cause of plummeting population numbers.

I have seen only one pair of these owls in Southern Utah, in a tiny canyon in Capitol Reef National Park in 1978. They have not been seen there for 10 years. I have been to other reputed spotted owl spots in Utah: Refrigerator Canyon, Cave Valley (Zion NP) with no luck. To most Utah birders, the sighting of the owl is one of the highlights of their birding years, since they are so rare.

Please write a letter to the U.S.F.W.S. asking them to list the Mexican spotted owl as threatened. Include a request that critical habitat be designated along with the listing, since the listing itself will not save the owl populations.

Write your letter by March 3 to: Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Office, 3530 Pan American Highway N.E., Suite D, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87197.

— Alice Lindahl
Conservation Chair



CACHE HIKERS MOVING ON

The organizational meeting for the hiking club held in January generated a terrific group of enthusiastic individuals. The name "Cache Hikers" was decided upon to identify the group.

The planning and arranging of hikes and workshops is possible due only to these (and other) volunteers:

Weekday Hikes: Renee Walker, 245-6064; Marjorie Lewis, 753-8724.

Evening Hikes: Kennita Thatcher, 753-8415; Jim Sinclair, 752-0061.

Weekend Hikes: Bill Lewis, 753-8724.

Workshops (safety, geology, flora and fauna): Dave Walden, 753-0080; John Thatcher, 753-8415.

If you would be interested in leading hikes, please contact these coordinators. Your name will be added to a master list of people getting involved in Cache Hikers. We need people to volunteer for other areas besides leading hikes, such as updating names and addresses, distributing flyers, contacting newspapers and radio stations, etc.

Other topics discussed at the January meeting ranged from liability issues to regular trash pick-up on each hike. Gordon Bosworth, representing the Forest Service, encouraged the clean-up efforts and recommended that the hiking groups size on each hike be kept quite small (between 10 and 15 people). John Wood discussed the Riverside Nature Trail which actually begins at the Boy Scout Lodge. This trail will prove to be a popular one, especially in early spring and evenings.

Plan to attend the workshops and hike with us this season. The list of hikes will be printed in *The Stilt* on a regular basis. If you have questions or comments, please call.

A special thanks to all of you who attended our initial meeting. Your ideas have produced an exciting plan of activities for this first hiking season.

— Kennita Thatcher, 753-8415

SIERRA CLUB LIVES AGAIN

Plans Hawaiian Expedition

The renewal of an active Cache Valley Group is now in progress. The group's committee is currently being organized. A regular schedule of educational outings/activities and monthly meetings will be published.

Two scheduled events will highlight 1992:

- Sponsorship of the first annual Eco-Fair, April 24 and 25, at the Cache Valley Mall in Logan.
- An ecology/geology expedition to the Hawaiian Islands, December 26 through January 2, 1992-93, coordinated with the Houston and Hawaii Sierra Club Chapters. Group size will be limited to twenty people from Utah. For information on how to register for this trip, call 753-8750 (evenings).

To get involved with the Cache Valley Group, contact Ron Hellstern, Cache Valley Group Chair, 168 West 300 North, Logan 84321, 753-8750.

LOON RISING

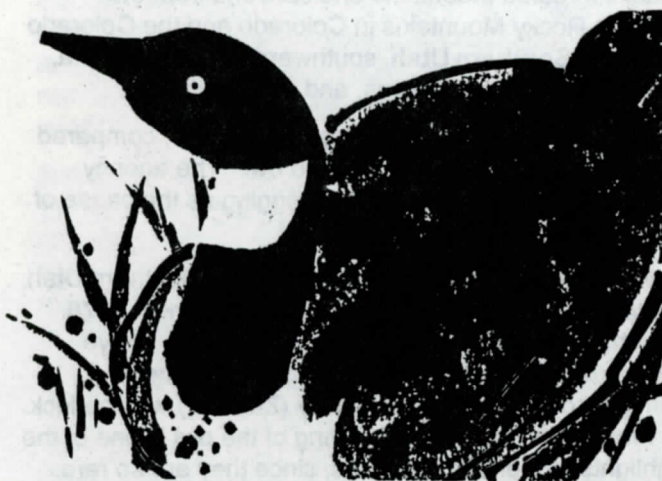
Lone black spruce in a vast night sky,
A cold wind, and the mournful cry
Of a distant loon.

Arising, moon,
Rippling roundness, silver splashed
In white on black, by laughter slashed . . .

Midnight sky to a silent shore
Moonstruck, cries!

No more
Empty sky, echo of moon
In the wandering wail of a lone lost loon.

— Martha Ralph



RETREAT OF THE GREAT SALT LAKE

Every other year Bridgerland Audubon hosts the spring retreat for all of the chapters in Utah. We spend two days bird-watching, catching up on all-state issues, making new friends, and providing the state coordinating council with suggestions for the future. The weekend provides plenty of time for food, fellowship, and sharing of experiences. It's a weekend the whole family can enjoy.

This year we have chosen to highlight the Bear River Bird Refuge, its rehabilitation and restoration. The roads are open again, repaired from the disastrous floods of 1983-87. Many of the dikes and water control structures are in place, and birders are once again enjoying the emerging habitats and the spring wetlands spectacle.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has thankfully taken an aggressive approach to the refuge rehabilitation. Not only will they rebuild the old dikes, but new land is being purchased along the road between Brigham City and the old refuge headquarters. This will add thousands of acres of upland, marsh, and riverside habitat to the revitalized refuge. A visitor center is being planned near the Brigham City freeway interchange.

The refuge staff will take us behind the locked gates to give us an idea of how extensive the rehabilitation project is. April should be a great time to pick up migrants and nesting species, all in spectacular breeding plumage.

Put this one on your calendar: April 4 (all day, overnight) and April 5 until noon. Maps and a detailed schedule will appear in the April *Still*.

Since Bridgerland Audubon will host the event, we can use help greeting people, organizing dinner, etc. Call me to sign up to attend and/or help out.

— Alice Lindahl
Conservation Chair
753-7744

ECO-FAIR, CACHE VALLEY'S FIRST

All of the environmental groups in the valley are combining to take over the Cache Valley Mall on April 24-25 to celebrate Earth Day. Bridgerland Audubon will have several booths: membership, field trips, sales (T-shirts, books), sandhill cranes, Audubon activities for kids. There will be entertainment, games, contests, prizes, and kids' events. Please call and sign up to work at a booth, even if you only have one hour to spare. Above all, plan to attend and bring your family.

— Alice Lindahl
Conservation Chair
753-7744

THE ALLEN STOKES CONSERVATION AWARD 1992

Every year at our spring banquet Bridgerland Audubon honors a Cache Valley resident or group for outstanding contribution to the environment. We count on you, our members, to make nominations for this award.

The award is named for our chapter's founder, Allen Stokes, who exemplifies a commitment to the environment with his teaching, leadership and resourcefulness. Previous recipients have included writers, land managers, clubs, public employees, and citizens working to make their neighborhoods better. We need these people more every year.

Please give me a call or write me a letter to nominate someone you know for our 1992 award. It can be a group (last year the Cache Recycling Coalition was the award winner) or an individual. Please provide details. The Planning Board will review the nominations on March 11, make a final vote on April 15, and award the prize at the banquet.

Alice Lindahl, 730 Hillcrest, Logan, UT 84321
Phone: 753-7744

LOGAN CITY SEEKS PERMIT TO DAMAGE AIR QUALITY

On February 11 the BAS conservation committee spoke at a Department of Environmental Quality hearing on Logan City's application to increase smokestack emissions from its diesel power plant located at 300 South and 300 West in Logan. The permit allows the city to quadruple particulates, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and carbon monoxide from that single point source. The city was required to apply for the permit because it recently purchased two "used" burners (built in 1948) that were manufactured before air quality improvements were required.

The city has a contract with Utah Association of Municipal Power Supply Systems (UAMPS) which requires the city to provide peaking power for the electricity network in exchange for cheap rates from the system (1 1/2 cents/kwh). The only way the city can satisfy this contract requirement is to have burners that can produce on demand when the alert is given. This can happen at any time of the year or time of day. The city plans to turn on all the burners only when requested to by UAMPS. It would lose money if it fired them up all the time.

Most of us would not like to see new sources of emission appear in Cache Valley. The air is already dirty enough, especially during winter inversions in the lowest parts of

valley. However, we learned during this hearing that Cache County is an "attainment area" by EPA standards with respect to air quality. This means that we are below the level where poor air quality would interfere with health for most people.

The Utah Department of Environmental Quality (Division of Air Quality) intends to keep on granting these applications for emissions increases until the air here is much worse. They can even continue to grant permits for emissions after Cache Valley has reached the dangerous "non-attainment" status.

The assessment of the DEQ that the air quality will not deteriorate as a result of the granting of the permit was made from a monitoring study done in 1982-3. We all know that car traffic has increased in the last 10 years. Cache County does not have emissions testing for individual cars, which would get rid of the worst offenders. Our east and west mountain range greatly increase the potential for air pollution in the valley.

I conclude from all this that our air quality laws are very weak. There is no procedure to request that our air be held to a cleaner standard than Ogden, Salt Lake, or Provo. The Logan city officials and the state seem content to let the air degrade to the levels which require that the Federal Government must move in to mandate clean-up measures.

The city of Logan did not make these increased emissions plans public until required to do so in the newspaper. For instance, the Power Plant Air Quality Impact Analysis was done in May, 1991. Presumably, the city decided to buy the older, less efficient burners before that. The DEQ printed the notice on January 6, 1992. When about 30 of us showed up at the hearing to ask questions we were told that we could only submit engineering data to refute the Impact Analysis conclusions, a document we had not seen. Clearly, there is no avenue for citizens to promote clean air.

If we want cleaner air in the future or even keeping of present levels, we need to be in on the decisions that Logan City is making. Why couldn't we spend more money and buy a modern burner? Can we buy power from Utah Power and Light? What can we do to lower auto emissions in the valley? Why not get rid of the reverse rate structure which rewards high consumption electricity users with lower rates? How about replacing the coal burner at USU? All of these options will pass us by if we do not insist that the city include citizens in the planning process. We are at the mercy of city departments who would like to produce more power as a way to make money.

Despite its name, the Department of Environmental Quality is not interested in our air quality unless it is already health-threatening. Indeed, they appear to be eager advocates for the city power department.

BAS could use a person to look into the air quality picture and write up the findings for the newsletter. We are awash now in a sea of ignorance and risk a loss that will be hard to repair.

— Alice Lindahl

L.E.A.F. BUSY RECYCLING

Logan Environmental Action Force, an organization of high school students bent on changing the world, is making a difference in what Logan does with its recyclable resources. At Logan High School they've initiated recycling programs, spread the environmental word through assemblies, and organized Earth Week activities.

Moving into the community, they have been urging Logan City to help with recycling efforts by making collections more convenient for people. They collected more than 700 signatures in support of community recycling sites. Along with others who have encouraged these efforts, they can take pride in the recent appearance of blue bins for collecting newspapers. The bins can be found at KMart, Smith's, Logan City Hall, Elk Ridge Park in North Logan, Nibley City Hall, and the landfill.

These energetic young idealists don't have much patience with the way they see their society using nature. "Nature is being hurt. We can ignore that or change it," said Shanon Roos. L.E.A.F. if not ignoring it.

RECYCLING WITH IRMA

LOCAL NEWS: Yes, you can recycle those plastic milk jugs and plastic soft drink bottles. You won't get paid, but you can take them to 80 West Center St., Smithfield, the second Saturday of each month. Wash the containers, and remove labels and lids.

Watch for promotional news about oil recycling. About each six weeks, 500 gallons of waste oil is taken from the storage vat at Logan landfill. We can do better and more recycling. Get the habit of taking your oil change there.

Eco-Fair will be at the Cache Valley Mall, April 24-25. You'll be able to update your recycling environment information. Plan to attend.

AND BEYOND: To improve the perceptions of politicians, maybe we should have more elections. Under election pressure, President Bush did find out we're stuck in a recession, and now he's found out there is an ozone problem.

Remember the polluted Boston Harbor publicity in the 1988 election? We won't hear about it in this election. In December, 1991, a plant to recycle sludge, a \$87 million facility south of Boston, went into operation as part of a \$6.1 billion Boston Harbor cleanup program. This entailed revamping the sewage system that serves 43 cities and towns in the Boston area. After a drying process, which destroys odor and harmful bacteria,

small pellets of low grade fertilizer are produced. Not a new idea. Not a money maker. But compared with incineration or landfill dumping, recycling the sludge was the best environmental solution.

Now the concern is lack of enforcement of regulations to keep toxics and heavy metals from being dumped into the new sewer system. The pellets are shipped out of state, not used in Massachusetts. The cadmium content is too high, for their standards are five times more restrictive than other states. What is a safe cadmium level? Recycling solves problems, raises questions.

Rocky Research, a company at Boulder City, Nevada, is developing an ice chest that is a take-along fridge, which replaces ozone-depleting refrigerants. The technology depends on inorganic salts such as CaCl which soak up gaseous coolants such as ammonia. . . . At Los Alamos National Laboratory and other research centers, electron beam accelerators zap solid particles in hazardous organic waste into harmless substances.

With much to learn, and much to apply, can't we get those military jobs converted to recycling industry jobs? That's the peace dividend we need.

— Irma Moon

BAS PAPER DROP

The all-sorts-of-paper collection trailer at Fred Meyer's parking lot, south of the store on 700 North, continues to amaze with its regular accumulation of discarded forest products. We're averaging a full trailer every two weeks. It will be interesting to see how that rate is affected by the proliferation of collection sites throughout the community. It's great to see all that paper being saved from wasteful destruction. I believe enough is still wasted to keep all present markets well supplied. Convenient drop-off sites are the key to salvaging this resource. You can bring your paper, any kind but wax or carbon, in bundles, bags, boxes, or not, just loosely assembled wads to toss blithely into the trailer. Pile from the far end toward the door, about five feet high. (The trailer shouldn't be overstuffed, as it gets too heavy for the scales.)

Good news. Don Hickman has volunteered to keep an eye on the trailer for us. He's the one to call if you notice anything amiss, like environmentalists buried in an avalanche of paper, stairs without trailers nearby, padlocks on doors—little things like that. Don has been in Cache Valley for about a year now. He works with Bio-West as a hydrologist. Or an hydrologist. He can be reached at 752-4202.

— Pat Gordon

WANT ADS

For Sale

Canoe — 18-foot Stripper by R.J. Milligan. Beautiful Bear River tour boat—too nice for kids or white water. \$1250. 753-4543.

Sailboat — 16-foot Hobie Cat with trailer. Red, white and blue sails. \$1500 or best offer. 753-4543

Easter Eggs — Ukrainian Pysanky. Intricate, colorful designs painted on quail, duck, goose, chicken, peacock and ostrich eggs (all domestically raised and infertile). A beautiful tradition for spring. Mention this ad, and 10 percent of your purchase will be donated to BAS. Ellen Klomps, 753-1716.

Personals

Singles Network. Meet other single naturalists through a North American-wide network for science and nature enthusiasts (all ages). For information write: Science Connection Inc., P.O. Box 188, Youngstown, NY 14174, or call: 1-800-667-5179.

Frustrated soprano seeks voice or voices for weekly harmonizing. Instrumentalists urged to call, also. Let's get together! Call Pat, 752-6561.

Services

At-Your-Door Veterinary Service. Dr. Rebecca Echols offers a house call service for pets. Preventative Health Care, Internal Medicine, Surgery and Dentistry. For information or to make appointment, call 753-7507.

Art to Order. Why live with ugliness? Your problem walls, ceilings, doors can be beautified. For free consultation, call Pat Gordon, 752-6561.

Rewarding Activities

Publicity Chair. Bridgerland Audubon would fizzle quickly without someone to get the word out on activities and projects. Can you post posters, write news releases, promote media events? If so, you can perform a valuable service for BAS. Contact Val Grant (753-5370) or Bruce Penderly (750-0253) for more details.

Inter-chapter Ambassador. BAS meets twice a year with other chapters in Utah. Would you like the opportunity to meet other Auduboners? Promote effective statewide environmental efforts? Then this is the job for you. Contact Bruce Penderly (750-0253).

Wetlands Protector. Cache Valley's wonderful wetlands are virtually unguarded. We need someone to take responsibility for learning about them and evaluating potential threats. If you appreciate our wet treasure to the west, consider turning your feelings into valuable action. Alice Lindahl, Conservation Chair, can get you started on becoming our resident wetland expert. (753-7744)

Refreshments. They also serve who only stand and bake. Homemade refreshments add alluring quality to our monthly programs. To schedule your contribution, call Mae Coover (752-8871).

Booth-sitters. For those who enjoy fraternizing with the public, this is a treat. We'll need several people to staff our booth for Eco-Fair on April 24 and 25. See article on page 6.

Field Trip Leaders. During the Audubon Retreat April 4 and 5, we need a few people to help with field trips and other events, like dinner. See article on page 6.

WHAT'S NEW AT THE UTAH LEGISLATURE?

The 1992 Utah Legislature came to an end on February 26. At this writing (February 20) there are still lots of bills to be resolved. Here are some highlights to date.

The bill to require cement plant kilns to meet Utah State siting criteria if burning hazardous wastes (HB 16 by Rep. Joseph Moody) passed both houses of the legislature. We supported this bill because it would mean that the facilities burning the wastes would be at least five miles away from residences, rivers and open waters. The cement plants currently operating in Utah would not meet these criteria, and the burning of hazardous wastes in them would be harmful to public health.

The state lands bills which we opposed have been amended, which makes them more acceptable to us. The bill which would change board membership (SB 22) would now include a member to represent user groups such as wildlife interests. More balance in conflicting management interests was included in HB 46 and HB 48. We are still not happy with the bills, but they are improved from their original form. We will not campaign to pass these bills, but we have withdrawn our objection.

The bills now read like the state lands enabling legislation, so that providing more environmentally protecting language would require going back and amending the Federal Enabling Act that granted Utah Statehood in 1896. This is where the state lands management priorities are spelled out.

The instream flow bill (SB 7) passed which allows wildlife and parks agencies to apply for water rights to protect flows in streams. We supported this, enthusiastically.

House Bill 136 would have required compostable yard waste to be diverted from landfills, thus promoting productive composting. It was defeated in the House.

We are lobbying against HCR 8. This is a resolution (not a bill) that would urge the federal government to pass Utah Representative Jim Hansen's Human Protection Act. This is federal legislation designed to weaken the Endangered Species Act. It calls for a change in the process of listing a species as threatened or endangered on grounds other than the basis of scientific data. It requires that economic costs of human endeavors enter into the determination of whether a species is so classified. So, for instance, if a road was being widened and would encroach on endangered species habitat, the "economic cost" of placing the road elsewhere could override the "economic benefit" of declaring the species endangered or threatened.

Normally, we do not lobby for or against resolutions since they are not binding. But we do not want the national legislature to hear that all of Utah likes Hansen's bill. HCR 8 passed the Utah House 39 to 32. We are lobbying the senators to vote "no."

Our lobbyist, Wayne Martinson, is working hard for the passage of SB 114. This bill would appropriate \$2 million for the purchase of S and H Book Cliffs Ranch.

See next month's *Stillt* for a complete 1992 legislative wrap-up. Thanks to all of you who wrote letters and called our legislators to help with these issues.

— Alice Lindahl

NATIONAL NEWS

CHANGES PROPOSED FOR NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

Last October, 17 chapter leaders (one or two from each region) and seven senior staff people from National Audubon met in Washington, D.C. to discuss the future of the Society as it enters its second century. The meeting was designed to produce frank, open dialogue about problems and needs that are barriers to Audubon becoming the most effective grassroots environmental organization, and also to brainstorm for solutions to those problems.

Solutions were proposed in the form of specific projects. Ten projects were created from the four basic "needs" areas that the group identified: strong regional and/or state structures, better communication, membership involvement in decision-making at the National level, and building stronger chapters. The number one priority of the ten projects is to expand staff to include regional representatives in all regional offices. Among the other nine projects are sharing information within the Audubon network by establishing an Audubon Information Clearinghouse, reforming the National Board of Directors election process into a more truly democratic election, and creating a chapter-led task force to develop a research and development program to review new ideas for strengthening chapters.

In February our chapter president and newsletter editor received copies of the full report. We encourage all interested chapter members to review the report and become involved in the development of these projects.

Please feel free to contact the two chapter leaders from our region who attended the Second Century meeting: Cary Lund from Montana (406-444-5622) and Ruth Russell from Arizona (602-743-9707), or any of the participants, all listed in the report.

GREEN PARTY WINNING ELECTIONS

The U.S. Green movement officially became a third political party in August 1991. Last year, 30 Green Party representatives were elected to city, county and state

offices, the most of any third party in decades. In California Greens enrolled 80,000 voters, giving the party a place on the state ballot.

Inspired by European Greens who were having political successes in West Germany, Great Britain, Sweden and elsewhere, the U.S. Green movement began in 1984. The program has "four pillars": ecology, peace, social justice, and grassroots democracy. Many Greens support a shift in power from national to local institutions. They are working to establish bases in every state, to place Greens in elected office, and to become a viable alternative in national politics.

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT NEEDS SUPPORT

At our February meeting, President Val Grant asked the gathering if they supported National Audubon's plan to make protection of endangered species a High Priority Campaign. The show of hands indicated unanimous approval.

Wildlife is threatened in many ways, but the safety net itself is under attack now. Logging and mining companies, real-estate and water developers—anyone with an economic interest in wildlife habitat—is supporting legislation to weaken the Endangered Species Act, hoping to open large areas for development without regard to environmental cost. Our own Congressman Jim Hansen has introduced HR 3092, the "Human Protection Act," to make it legal to ignore the wildlife values of the land. The money and influence behind this effort are very persuasive.

On the other hand, a series of amendments introduced by Rep. Gerry Studds (D-Mass.) would expand the Endangered Species Act to protect habitat of endangered wildlife and plants—listed and candidate species—before they reach the brink of extinction. The bill, H.R. 4045, would allow habitat conservation plans and set up a fund to help finance the plans.

If we are serious about preserving a diversity of wildlife, our representatives need to know about it. Even a quick note to express your sentiments will help. Addresses are below.



For further information on national campaigns, write to National Audubon Society, 950 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10022.

To communicate with your representatives in Washington, write to:
President George Bush, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C. 20500
Senator Jake Garn or Orrin Hatch, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510
Representative James V. Hansen, Wayne Owens, or Bill Orton, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515.

MONUMENTS . . . MUSEUMS . . . TREE-LINED BOULEVARDS . . . HISTORY. Washington, D.C., is all of these things. It is the capital to the world, a city of great power and beauty that houses one of the most accessible governments in human history. The Audubon 1992 Convention will give every National Audubon member the opportunity to explore the wonders of Washington, to see it at one of the most beautiful times of the year, and to learn more about the critical role Audubon members can play on behalf of wildlife and wildlife habitat issues.

For registration information write to:

Audubon '92 Convention
4150 Darley Avenue, Suite 5
Boulder, Colorado 80303

or call (303) 499-3622
FAX (303) 499-0286



1992 Audubon Convention At A Glance

Saturday, June 13

Afternoon Registration

Evening Welcome Plenary Session,
The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton, invited
Peter A.A. Berle, President

Sunday, June 14

Morning Issues Workshops (Wetlands, Ancient Forests,
Endangered Species)

Afternoon Presidential Candidate *Speak-Out*
Skills Training (Media, Grassroots Organizing)

Evening Dr. Peter Raven, invited, Director, Missouri
Botanical Gardens; Home Secretary, National
Academy of Sciences

Monday, June 15

Morning Issues Workshops (Wetlands, Ancient Forests,
Endangered Species)

Afternoon Presidential Candidate *Speak-Out*
Hands-on skills training

Evening Entertainment

Tuesday, June 16

Audubon Lobby Day

12 noon Capitol Hill Rally

Ad Hoc Tours of the Supreme Court, Capitol
Building, Library of Congress

Evening Capitol Hill Reception

Wednesday, June 17

Field Trips

Evening Conservation Awards
Earth Summit Report

Thursday, June 18

Morning Concurrent Workshops

Afternoon Presidential Candidate
Speak-Out
Concurrent Workshops
Council Conclave

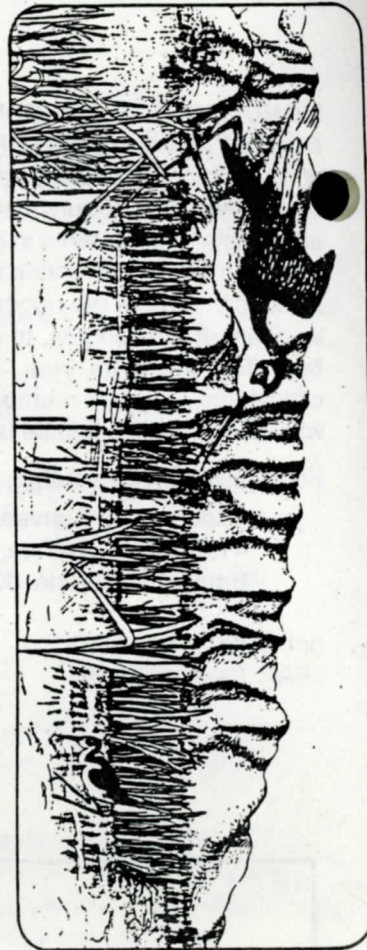
Evening Keynote by Bette Midler, invited

Friday, June 19

Post Convention tours and field trips departures
All events will be held at the American University
Campus except for the day on Capitol Hill

THE STILT

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



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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 pm. The BAS Planning Committee meets the following Wednesday, October through May, in the Logan Library at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

President	Val Grant, 752-7572
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	Bruce Pendery, 750-0253
Hospitality	Mae & Merv Coover, 752-8871
Hotline	Nancy Williams, 753-6268
Recycling	Marvin & Irma Moon, 753-4698
Legislation	Nadene Steinhoff, 753-0497
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.

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.