

THE STILT

BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

Volume 21, No. 4

December 1992

ADOPT A HAWK FOR CHRISTMAS



© Pete McDonnell From "RESOURCES"

Need an idea for the person who has everything on your gift list this Christmas? If that person is a birder, perhaps they might enjoy their own adopted raptor, courtesy of you and HawkWatch International.

HawkWatch International Inc. is a non-profit member-based organization dedicated to the study of raptors. They have done an intensive study of raptor migration in the Wellsville Mountains of Utah, the Goshutes in Nevada, and four other sites in the western U.S. In addition to monitoring the migration routes (an average of 30,000 raptors are observed each year), HWI also captures and bands approximately 3,000 yearly.

As part of HWI fund raising efforts, HWI has developed a program called Adopt A Hawk. A sponsor in this program picks a raptor and becomes its benefactor. The sponsor receives an official 8" x 10" adoption certificate with the bird's species, weight, sex, age band number and a 4" x 6" color photo. In addition, the sponsor receives periodic updates on the bird's activities (mating, migrating, nesting) and whereabouts of their species. Annual membership in HawkWatch International and a subscription to its quarterly magazine are also included with the adoption.

If you are interested in adopting a hawk you can write to HawkWatch International, Inc. P.O. Box 35706, Albuquerque, N.M. 87176, or call their toll free number 1-800-726-4295.

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CALENDAR

Thursday, December 10. General Meeting. Steve Hoffman, founder and president of "HawkWatch International" will speak about this wonderful organization's continuing efforts to monitor, document and protect raptors in the global environment. Meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Logan City Meeting Room, 255 North Main. The first trend analysis study has been released after 15 years of raptor migration studies. Declining populations of Northern Goshawks and Golden Eagles are indicated in the West.

Tuesday to Sunday, August 2-8, 1993. Regional Conference. For the long-term planners with 1993 calendars already, mark these dates. The conference of the Rocky Mountain Region Chapters of Audubon will meet near Salt Lake for field trips and all the latest info. Utah chapters will be hosting. We'd like to rally a strong contingency from Bridgerland for this occasion. This is an excellent way to recharge your environmental batteries.

Field Trips

Saturday, December 5. Birding in Benson. Leave at 1 p.m. from the southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot. Return by 5 p.m. Winter migrants will be in the valley, such as rough-winged hawks and tree sparrows.

Saturday, December 19. Christmas Bird Count and Potluck Dinner. This annual event is one of the highlights of the year for the Bridgerland chapter. The count is a day long birding trip to identify and count both number and species of all birds sighted in a 15 mile diameter area in and around Logan. Most groups begin their count at sunrise and continue until sunset. At 6:30 p.m. everyone gathers at Bruce Pendery and Kim Sullivan's home at 755 Canyon Rd. for a potluck dinner and compilation of the data. If you would like to join the count, give Keith Archibald a call at 752-8258. For dinner information phone Bruce Pendery at 750-0253.

Winter Field Trips

January 16. Tracks in the Snow. Leave at 1 p.m. from the southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot and return by 4:30 p.m. Veteran tracker and naturalist Kayo Robertson will lead this discovery trip. With 20 or so keen eyes it is amazing how many tracks, scats and other signs of bird and mammal life will show. Kayo will help identify the tracks and try to figure out what the animal was doing. Probably just good hiking boots will suffice, but if in doubt call Kayo at 752-3944. A great family outing. If weather is unsuitable the trip will be held January 23.

Saturday, February 13. Know Your Conifers. Rob Lilieholm will lead his ever-popular walk around the university campus to help participants discover how to tell a spruce from a fir, or determine how much growth a tree puts on each year. Meet at 1 p.m. at the information desk in the Taggart Student Center and return by 3 p.m. or so. The walk will be on sidewalks for the most part. Dress warmly. Bring some friends to introduce them to Audubon. If in doubt about the weather call Rob at 752-4793.

Saturday, February 27. Beaver Along the Bear River. Beaver are abundant along the Bear River west of Logan. They den in high banks, and cut willows and cottonwood for winter food. This is a good chance to discover what a beaver has been doing from the sign it leaves—trails, den, trees cut and food stores. Roast marshmallows over an open fire while trip leader Al Stokes recounts the history of the early fur trade in Cache Valley. A fine outing for families. Just wear good boots or galoshes and dress warmly. Leave at 1 p.m. from the southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot and return by 4 p.m. If in doubt about the weather call Al Stokes at 752-2702.

Saturday, March 6. Annual Bald Eagle Day. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources with help from the Wasatch Audubon Society hosts this remarkable sight of bald eagles feeding on carp along the Salt Creek about 10 miles west of Brigham City. We will drive to the top of a low hill overlooking the open marshes and creek where there could be several dozen bald eagles, great blue herons and numerous waterfowl within 20 yards. There will be spotting scopes set up, but the viewing is excellent even without binoculars. There will also be a display table set up with information about eagles in Utah. Oh yes, last year there was hot chocolate and cookies for all. This is another great family outing. Leave at 10 a.m. from the southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot and return by 2 p.m. or so. Bring a lunch. Dress warmly for it is usually windy.

CACHE HIKERS WINTER SCHEDULE

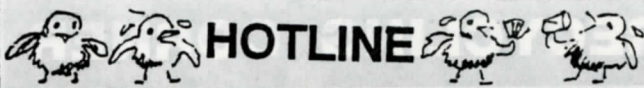
Cross country trips and a snowshoe excursion round out the outings for the winter season of Cache Hikers. Each trip leaves at 10 a.m. from the southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot and returns around 2 p.m. Winterize your equipment and clothing and come join us for one or all the trips.

Cross Country Trips: December 5, January 9, 23,
February 13, 20

Snowshoe Trips: January 30

Call Kennita at 753-8415 or Jim Sinclair at 752-0061 for further information.

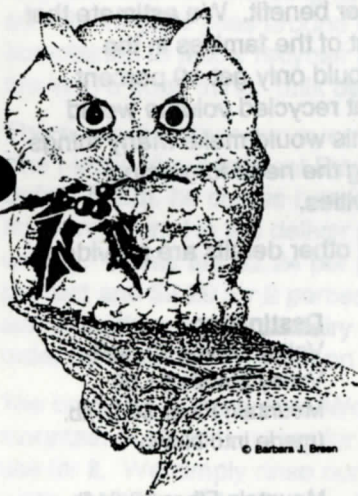
— Kennita Thatcher



What a long, luxurious fall we've had! A couple of blue jays dropped by to catch the great weather the week of Homecoming at Utah State University. Carmen Reich's feeder (in the Adams School area of Logan) hosted one from Oct. 19-24, and Alice Stewart had one in her River Heights yard from Oct. 22-24. Blue jays are quite unusual in Cache Valley, but range maps in the Peterson field guide show them expanding their territory, pushing that dotted line further westward each year.

Al Stokes reported a scrub jay at his feeder in Logan Oct. 12. Bill Ehmann and Keith Archibald both saw a Ross's goose at the sewage lagoon Nov. 14—it looks like a smaller version of a snow goose, with a stubby bill, says Bill. Keith also saw herring gulls at the Logan landfill, the first reported for the winter.

Pelican Pete's still holding down the fort on his turf near the fish hatchery on Valley View highway, though his companions (five able-bodied pelicans who stayed through Election Day) have finally flown, Keith says.



Our big excitement happened not in the field but right at the front door, when a great horned owl came calling Halloween night. "Chitters" the owl perched on a leather glove worn by his main human, John Martin, and gazed unblinking at us from round golden eyes. Martin's family, with Chitters, had just moved to Utah from Montana (via Colorado, he said) and were bunking next door temporarily while waiting to buy

a house in the county. Chitters made soft, throaty chittering noises—no hoots—and allowed awed admirers to stroke the feathers on his breast. Martin has had a permit to keep the owl since rescuing it as an injured chick four years ago. Chitters' main function is education; Martin visits school classes with the bird to give children a first-hand introduction to owls.

We're heading now for fiercer weather (we hope—after all, it's almost winter), so remember to keep your bird feeders full. Those lively little winter birds decorating your outdoor scene need to eat every 24 hours or they'll die. Don't forget them this holiday season. And don't forget to call when you see something worth sharing.

— Nancy Williams
753-6268

WHAT IS HAWKWATCH INTERNATIONAL?

HawkWatch International is a non-profit membership organization staffed primarily by volunteers working to monitor and protect birds of prey, their habitats and the global environment. Using raptors as environmental indicators, HawkWatch International accomplishes its mission through research and education programs.

The focal point of our research is to count migrating raptors along mountaintop flyways in the Rocky Mountain Region. By using a standardized method of counting migrant raptors consistently over many years, HawkWatch's database is becoming an important source of information for understanding the status and trends of western raptor populations.

Because raptors inhabit the top of the food pyramid, they are sensitive to environmental change and can serve as early evidence of environmental problems. The most famous example is the link made between the pesticide DDT and the dramatic decline of raptor populations between 1946-1971 that was documented by HawkWatch Mountain Sanctuary in Pennsylvania. Most of these populations recovered when DDT use was banned by the United States Government in 1972.

Raptors are an integral part of the natural world. They are efficient predators, and thus help keep populations of their prey (insects, small mammals, passerine birds, etc.) in balance with their food supplies. In addition, raptors often prey on the weak and sick animals in a population, helping to maintain a healthy "gene pool."

HawkWatch also traps and bands migrating raptors to learn more about their origins and destinations. By learning the locations where hawks have been recovered, we gain additional information about their migratory habits. Examining and measuring the birds during the banding procedure provides data on the health and condition of raptor populations. The health of the birds reflects the health of their environment, and eventually, our own.

— Raptorwatch Newsletter



Flarg
85

1985 © Donna J. Barr

WIND CAVES VIA BOSTON

On Saturday, November 7, I joined the Bridgerland Audubon Society for the hike to the wind caves. This was the first opportunity I have had to explore my new surroundings. Having come from New England, I especially enjoyed the crisp, invigorating fall air and the beauty of Utah's mountains.

Al Stokes was our trip leader aided by his special guest and geological expert Sue Morgan. Fossilized rocks were the main focus of the hike. Sue explained that they are preserved in limestone. She used hydrochloric acid to indicate the presence of the limestone and showed us the ocean floor predator that once roamed the area of the canyon that remains today. Throughout the venture to the caves, Al pointed out specific native trees and various types of bushes. He also showed me how to identify deer tracks. We even found hornets and bees hibernating on branches of trees for the cold winter ahead.

The caves are quite unique, and I was very happy to see they have been left unvandalized. After a warm afternoon, the sun started to set and everyone began pulling on their extra warm layers and wandering back down the trail.

Meeting new people who enjoy the finer qualities of a crisp autumn hike helped to make my transition from Boston warm and pleasurable.

— Cindy Byrne

THANKS, AUDUBON

The Logan Library sent thanks and appreciation to the Bridgerland Audubon Society for their donation of two National Audubon Society videos ("We Can Run" by Greatful Dead and "Mercy, Mercy Me" by Marvin Gaye) and the book *Fight For Survival*. They were pleased to include them in their collection.

As always . . .

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



RECYCLING CORNER

Summit PTA Recycling Project

Recycling day is on the second Saturday of each month, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. We try to maintain this schedule, but have averaged 11 recycling days per year. It is currently held behind the city offices, since the city is providing trucks to haul the paper. The city has committed to provide these trucks through the month of October, after which we hope to have greater community involvement from businesses and other large truck owners.

The PTA needs individuals to step forward and become involved in a variety of projects. In recycling, we need assistance to help with organizing the monthly recycling day. This entails a few telephone calls to parties already committed to provide labor, vehicles, publicity and services. Our hopes are that this assistance will allow the recycling chairman to reach out to the community to stimulate more involvement and a greater volume of materials recycled. With project growth, the school and community will receive greater benefit. We estimate that there is less than five percent of the families in the community involved. If we could only get 10 percent involvement, we estimate that recycled volume would grow by a factor of 2 to 4. This would make many things possible, including eliminating the need for raising additional funds for PTA activities.

The materials we accept and other details are provided in the table below:

Items	Treatment	Destination
Aluminum	Crush	Valley Metals \$0.30/lb.
Lead batteries	Carefully!	Valley Metals \$1.00
Paper	Bundle, box or bag	Mountain Fiber \$0.01/lb. (made into blown)
Insulation)		
Cardboard	FLATTEN!	Mountain Fiber \$0.91/lb. (Hyrum)
Tinned steel cans	Clean, flatten	Bloom's Recycling (Ogden)
Plastic milk jugs	Rinse well, FLATTEN!	Mountain Fiber
Liter pop bottles	Rinse, FLATTEN!	Mountain Fiber

More info, or to volunteer, call Clyde Best at 563-9492, evenings.

Help Wanted

Summit Recycling Project is looking for someone to transport tin cans to Ogden on a monthly to bi-monthly basis. Trailer provided. If interested contact Nancy Fox at 563-3096 evenings.

Christmas Tree Recycling

Cache County Recycling Coalition is again organizing the annual recycling of Christmas trees. There will be drop sites at each of the elementary schools as well as one up at the university. Volunteers are needed at each of the drop sites. For more information contact Bill Meyer or Logan City Service 752-1412.

Aluminum Cans Wanted

Al Stokes is still collecting cans to recycle. Reynolds pays us 2¢ per pound bonus as a philanthropic group, and an additional 1¢ per pound for flattened cans; even more for volume quantities turned in. Drop your cans off at the west side of Al's garage at 1722 Saddle Hill Drive (that's about 950 North just east of Logan Golf Course). All proceeds go to help fund Audubon Adventures in elementary schools.

Banish Those Milk Bottle Blues

Remember the good old days when the milkman brought fresh milk in the wee hours of the morn, in glass bottles which he took with him when they were empty? I had forgotten such simple delights while plastic milk containers grew piles around me. In desperation I complained to fellow recycler Margaret Raitt, who clued me in to a good thing: milk delivery!

There may be other purveyors of dairy products, but the one I know about is Brent Findlay. Every Wednesday before 6 a.m. he comes bearing Cream O' Weber milk to my front door. He will deliver as little as one half-gallon weekly. Prices are \$2.24 per gallon for nonfat or 1 percent and \$2.29 for 2 percent or whole milk. He can also provide many other dairy products which you can order by checking them off on a list.

The best part is the bottle. We no longer add to the mountain of plastic waiting for a manufacturer to find a use for it. We simply rinse our crystalline poly carbonate bottle and leave it for Brent, who re-uses it for another gallon of milk somewhere. It's a beautiful system. Call Brent at 753-4561, and banish those milk bottle blues!

— Pat Gordon

Recycled Paper Products Available

The paper you are now reading is 100 percent recycled. It is made by Conservatree and comes to us through Treecycle, a distributor in Montana which serves this region by supplying recycled paper in smaller quantities than manufacturers will ship. They provide paper, notepads, envelopes, paper bags, toilet paper, napkins, paper towels and tissues for business or home use.

Here are a few sample prices:

This paper (C-100 natural, 8 1/2" x 11"), one ream — \$5.75

#10 business envelopes, grey, 100% post-consumer waste, 50 envelopes — \$1.75

Toilet paper, 2-ply, 500 sheets/roll, 12 rolls — \$6.00

Facial tissue, 2-ply, 100 sheets/box, 6 boxes — \$3.75

Shipping costs depend on weight and distance (UPS).

To receive a catalog, write or call Rick Meiss, P.O. Box 5086, Bozeman, MT 59715 (406) 586-5287. He's been a pleasure to deal with, as well as a staunch advocate of the careful use of forest products.

— Pat Gordon



note

CHAPTER NEWS

BANQUET APPROACHETH

Yes, there is life after Christmas! Deep in the greyness of January (Wednesday, January 20), Bridgerland Audubon Society and friends will meet to enjoy the edible offerings of Dan Kramer (Cottage Restaurant) and the elucidation of Barre Toelken, folklorist. He'll elaborate on the Navajo view of the natural world while sharing "Coyote Tales for a Winter Night." Master of Ceremonies for the evening will be our own Val Grant, for additional pleasure.

The social hour will begin at 6 p.m. in the Carrousel Room of the Bullen Center. Dinner will be served at 7, with presentation of awards and Dr. Toelken's talk for dessert. (Metaphonically speaking, that is. Actually, we'll have perfectly yummy apple dumplings for dessert.)

During December, banquet organizer Pat Gordon is welcoming offers of help with decor—anything relating to the native American theme. Also, contributions of wine or hors d'oeuvres for the social hour would be wonderful. Tickets will be available through A Book Store after January 4 for \$12 each. Please plan to attend and bring your best date! If you'd like to help with preparations in any way, call Pat Gordon at 752-6561.

NEED MONEY?

Bob Atwood is leading up our budget committee this year. If you have a project that you would like to see Bridgerland Audubon fund, submit your request to: Bob Atwood, 256 North 100 West, Logan (753-0012). All requests should be made by December 31. Thanks!

SUNFLOWER SEED AVAILABLE

Sunflower seed available at Sunrise Cyclery and at the home of Al Stokes at 1722 Saddle Hill Drive. Price is \$13 per 50-pound bag with a \$1 return on each GOOD bag. No need to call ahead, instructions are on garage door.

REGIONAL NEWS

BOOK CLIFFS UPDATE AND ALERT

Ouray to Cisco Paved Highway, BLM Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Public Hearings

Uintah and Grand County Special Service Districts propose to construct an 83 mile highway providing an all weather transit route between oil and gas fields in eastern Utah and serve as a north-south tourist route. The proposed highway crosses federal land managed by the BLM, which completed a September 11, 1992 Draft EIS addressing the environmental effects of the highway. The planned highway crosses critical winter range for deer and elk and is important year long habitat for bear, cougar and other wildlife. Cost of the paved highway is currently set in the millions, while little or no public need and benefit exists to support the original or scaled down paving proposal.

The Draft EIS "Agency Preferred Alternative" proposes highway paving occur within an existing road network in the Book Cliffs region. This option is less than the wide right of way requested by the counties but is greater than the no paving and no action alternative suggested by state conservation organizations. Public hearings on the Draft EIS will be held as follows:

Salt Lake	Nov. 4	7 p.m.	Dept. Natural Resources Bldg. 1636 W. N. Temple
Vernal	Nov. 5	7 p.m.	Western Park, 302 E. 200 S.
Moab	Nov. 17	7 p.m.	BLM District Office 82 East Dogwood

Groups are urged to attend hearings and present written statements supporting the "No Action," no paving, highway free option under the Draft EIS. Comments should be directed to Daryl Trotter, BLM, Moab District, P.O. Box 970, Moab, UT 84532 and received no later than mid December, 1992.

Book Cliffs General Management Plan (GMP)

Management of State lands in the Book Cliff area is directed by the Utah Division of State Lands and Forestry. The State is in the process of developing a Book Cliff GMP for some 160,000 acres of state school trust land in the area. Conservation groups urge the State to pursue an exchange with BLM for the designated "Roadless Area" and lands in and around BLM wilderness study areas. The State is also urged to retain the mineral withdrawal of the roadless area and suspend mineral leasing on lands within and adjacent to WSA's until a BLM land exchange takes place.

Comments should be directed to Richard Mitchell, Director, Utah Division of State Lands and Forestry, 355 West North Temple, 3 Triad Center, Suite 400, Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1204.

Book Cliffs Conservation Initiative (BCCI)

The Initiative is a cooperative effort between BLM, State Division of Wildlife Resources, The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and the Nature Conservancy to acquire grazing permits and lands from private ranch owners and develop an ecosystem approach to managing the eastern Book Cliffs region which includes a 450,000 acre area. The initiative proposes to protect critical habitat for all wildlife, enhance watershed and associated riparian areas, assure public access and recreational opportunities for the future. Groups seeking to assist this effort should contact the Rocky Mt. Elk Foundation or the Nature Conservancy, both with offices in Salt Lake City.

Preservation of the Book Cliffs Region

Groups are encouraged to support a "no action" option on the highway, support a State and BLM exchange of school trust and roadless areas and support the Conservation Initiative. The bumper sticker "Keep the Book Cliffs Wild and Highway Free," designed by B.J. Nicholls of Salt Lake City, is a statement in support of all three positions. The Book Cliff region is a unique ecosystem that includes six wilderness study areas and some of the wildest country in Utah. It is home to black bear, cougar, elk, mule deer, sage grouse, beaver and numerous waterfowl. For further information contact the Utah Wilderness Association, The Wilderness Society, the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, the Uinta Mountain Club in Vernal or the Canyon Zephyr in Moab.

NORTHERN UTAH "WETLANDS WATCH"

If you see or are aware of any activity that you believe is violating the requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or if you have questions regarding wetlands, please notify John Sigler (day phone, 753-8933) as soon as possible.

EIGHTH ANNUAL UTAH WILDERNESS ASSOCIATION WILDERNESS POETRY COMPETITION

First Prize: \$100.00

Deadline: February 15, 1993

All poets are invited to participate in an exciting competition sponsored by the Utah Wilderness Association. In an effort to enhance the body of modern wilderness poetry, we are seeking unpublished poetry related to the theme of wilderness, its preservation, its life and values, its spiritual nature or any of the preceding themes. A prize of \$100.00 will be awarded to the winning poet. The winning poem and five honorable mentions will be reprinted in a special spring 1993 centerfold of the *UWA Review* and will be circulated throughout the West in June.

Contest 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 an entry fee of \$3.00. Send two copies of each poem (one must include your name, address and phone number; the second must contain the poem only) to **POETRY/UWA, 455 East 400 South #306, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111 (801) 359-1337**.

Poets retain all rights. For judges' guidelines and/or notification of winners, send SASE to address above. No poems will be returned. **Poems must be postmarked by February 15.**

Mervin & Mae Coover
435 Canyon Rd
Providence UT 84332

Nonprofit Organization
BULK RATE
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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 at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month, September through May, at the home of Tom and Pat Gordon, (718 North 200 East, Logan). Everyone is welcome to attend.

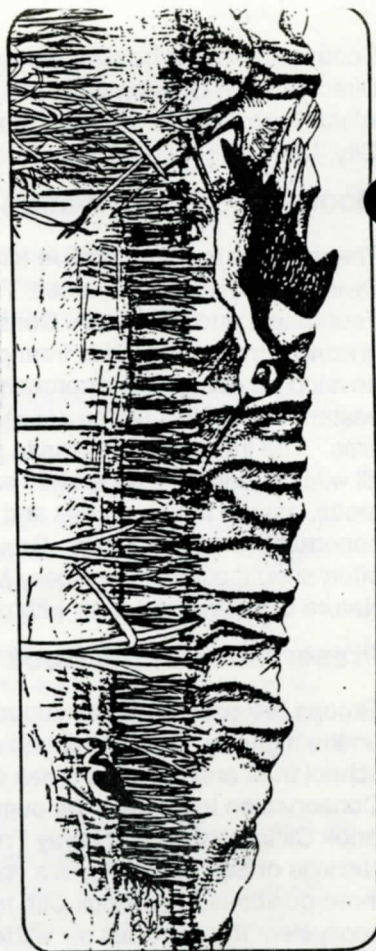
President	Bruce Pandery, 750-0253
Vice President	Dawn Holzer, 753-6047
Secretary	Tom Gordon, 752-6561
Treasurer	Susan Robertson, 752-4598
Conservation	Alice Lindahl, 753-7744
Education	Jack Greene, 563-6816
Membership	Al Stokes, 752-2702
Field Trips	Al Stokes, 752-2702
Newsletter	Lois & Randy Olson, 752-9085
Circulation	Tom Gordon, 752-6561
Publicity	Chris Sands, 755-9524
Hospitality	Bill & Marjorie Lewis, 753-8724
Time	Nancy Williams, 753-3268
Recycling	Marvin & Irma Moon, 753-4698
Legislation	
Trustees	
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
1991-94:	Keith Archibald, 752-8258; Ron Hellstern, 753-8750

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 179 East 300 North, Logan, UT 84321.

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THE STILT

BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY
P.O. Box 3501 — Logan, UT 84323-3501



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, UT 84323-3501

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. Also, call Tom for new subscriptions or address changes.