

PROGRESS IN OUR MIDST

Bridgerland Audubon contributes \$2,000 each year to support our state lobbyist, Wayne Martinson. Each year he gains more influence as legislators come to appreciate his trustworthy information. The following quotes indicate his worth:

"Thank you for your support during the Legislative session and throughout the interim. Your presence on the hill is critical to the success wildlife has experienced. You have established a reputation as a 'reasonable environmentalist,' have earned the respect of many legislators, and quite frankly, have made inroads where others have failed. The resource would not be as well off as it is without your efforts." From Bob Hasenyager, Associate Director, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

"Wayne, on behalf of the Audubon Coordinating Council, is beginning to take a proactive stance, rather than just reacting to proposals from others. His initiative to investigate water conservation measures is an important one which could result in a significant public benefit to all." From Connie Steffen, Research Analyst, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, State of Utah.

This year Wayne will concentrate on the Wildlife
Heritage Act, to allocate money to the nonconsumptive
wildlife programs; and on a voluntary \$3 million state
contribution for Title IV of the Central Utah Project
Completion Act. This money would be used strictly to
mitigate habitat loss incurred by the Central Utah

Project. I hope you will want to support our lobbyist and meet our annual quota of \$2,000. Send checks made to Bridgerland Audubon Society to Sue Robertson, Treasurer, 1780 East 1400 North, Logan.

- Al Stokes

HAPPY NEW YEAR 1993! Wishing you 10 rare and exotic birds for your life list, more stamina, a better disposition, and an improved environment!



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CALENDAR

Saturday, January 20. <u>BAS Annual Banquet</u>. Barry Toelken will be our guest speaker. For more information see page 4 in this January issue of *The Stilt*.

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.

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. Meeting 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.

PRESCHOOLER'S WINTER TREK

Saturday, January 9. Nature in Winter. Bridgerland Audubon's Preschool Naturalists will take a field trip from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. The theme for this trip is "Nature in Winter." All interested 3 to 6-year-olds are invited, but space is limited and registration is required. To register, please call Eddy at 755-0722.

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 Trip: January 30

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

Kennita Thatcher

SAME TIME, NEW STATION

The editors of *The Stilt* will lovingly accept any and all article submissions for the newsletter at a new address.

Lois & Randy Olson 280 N. 300 E. Logan, UT

USU OUTDOOR PROGRAM

January Trips and Activities

Saturday, January 9. Ski Tour of the Month. Meet at Outdoor Recreation Center, 9 a.m. Free. Most of the day.

Wednesday, January 13. Outdoor Adventure Slide Show Series. Slide show #1, 7:30, HPER 114. Topic: Avalanche Awareness by the Utah Avalanche Forecast Center. Each Wednesday night throughout winter quarter. Free.

Saturday-Monday, January 16-18. Yurt Trip to the Tetons. Mandatory pre-trip meting January 11, 6 p.m., ORC. Cost: \$75.00, includes two nights in Yurt, transportation and t-shirt. Sign up at the ORC.

Saturday, January 23. <u>Skate-Skiing Clinic</u>. Call ORC for more information. Free.

Saturday, January 23. Avalanche Rescue Beacon Refresher. Come practice finding beacons. 9 a.m., HPER Fields. Free.

For more information call the Outdoor Recreation Center, 750-3264.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

Anne B. Billaux, Logan Mark Brunson, Logan Debra Cudney, Wellsville Chris and Wendy Gaddis, Hyde Park Karla Hansen, Logan Nathan and Chris Hult, Logan Mr. Oscar H. Conejo, Logan Ardys M. Crapo, Logan Mr. Tony M. Derricott, Logan Shelly Salzetti, Amalga Kenneth Theis, Logan Amanda Thimmes, Logan Ms. Susan B. Toyer, Logan Hack Way, Logan John R. Alley, Jr., Hyrum Charles W. Gay, Logan Ms. Shelley A. Williams, Logan

THANKS, RENEWING MEMBERS!

Michael C. Amacher, Logan R.K. Archibald, DMD, Logan Hugh and Katie Blanchard, Mililani Town, Hawaii Claire S. Caldes, Brigham City

John W. Carlisle, M.D., Logan Christy Carlson, Logan Scott Datwyler, Logan Norbert V. Debyle, Logan Gail Deuring, Brigham City Ms. Lula C. DeValve, Logan R. Ryan Dupont, Smithfield Mr. and Mrs. T.J. Gordon, Logan The Grah Family, Providence Ms. Wendy Greene, Smithfield Dr. Charles Hawkins, Logan Mrs. Bernard Hayes, Logan William B. Hampton, M.D., Sault. St. Marie, MI Arthur H. Holmgren, Logan Kenneth Jenner, Logan Mrs. Robert Johnston, Logan John A. Kadlec, Logan Dr. James Kennedy, Logan Harriette A. Lanner, Logan Richard J. Mueller, Logan Mrs. Donald Newman, Logan Fredrick Norrsell, Logan M. Jean Packer, Logan Ann W. Peralta, Millville C.B. Peterson, Logan Mrs. Sandra Romesburg, Logan Laura Romin, Logan Victoria Roy, Mantua, UT Tovi Santiago, Jackson, WY John A. Scherting, Logan Marsha Swartzfager, Layton, UT Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Taylor, Logan Ms. Marie Veibell, Logan The Vitale Family, Logan Western Surgery Center, Logan Allan Zipf, Logan

HOWDY, TRANSFERS!

Linda B. Rawlins, Pinedale, WY

THANKS TO PHEASANTS FOREVER

Bridgerland Audubon recently received a \$400 grant from Pheasants Forever of Cache Valley to aid Wayne Martson's lobbying efforts on our behalf. Over the past few years several other organizations have also contributed to our efforts to coax the State of Utah toward a greater concern for our natural heritage. These grants have made it much easier for us to continue our support for Wayne's activities. So, to Pheasants Forever and all other contributors, BAS offers a heartfelt Thank You.

Bruce Pendery

BAS ANNUAL BANQUET JANUARY 20

Featuring Food and Folktales

When the Navajo people tell their traditional stories, they are careful to observe traditions in the telling. The Navajos respect the power of the words, and seek to avoid any harm they might cause. Barre Toelken was allowed to record the coyote stories on the condition that he share these narratives only in the proper season. He will bring his tapes to give a sense of the original storyteller's flavor, but as they are told in the Navajo language, we will appreciate his own flavor in the interpretation. Fortunately for Bridgerland Audubon members, our banquet on Wednesday, January 20, allows Dr. Toelken to tell "Coyote Tales for a Winter's Night." He will give us some insight into the Navajo view of the natural world and its workings.

But What's For Dinner?

In another fine tradition, Dan Kramer of The Cottage Restaurant will perform his wonders with food. Anyone who has enjoyed his handiwork before will anticipate a flavorful meal.

The Menu

Baked Halibut
Turkey Orloff
Green Salad
Fruit
Grilled Potatoes
Rice Pilaf
Apple Dumplings
Coffee
Lemonade

Lest we have hungry vegetarians, the non-meat dishes will be prepared without animal products.

What Else?

For the first time, we will hold our banquet in the Carousel Ballroom of Bullen Art Center. The inimitable Val Grant, past-president of BAS and wide-ranging biologist, will be the master of ceremonies. Awards will be presented to outstanding conservationists during the festivities.

Can You Help?

In the past, our banquet has needed to be subsidized from the general fund. On the premise that those who contribute to Bridgerland Audubon had something other than parties in mind for their donation, we want to avoid that need this year, by making this a user-supported event. Therefore, we are requesting some help from the members, in the form of a) hors d'oeuvres and wine for the social hour, and b) decorations.

If you would like to help get the party off to a good start by bringing something tasty for the 6 to 7 p.m. social hour, appetizers, chips, dips, and your favorite persuasion of wine are encouraged. Please call Elizabeth Walker if you are willing to contribute, so she can make plans. She's home evenings at 753-4482.

For decorations, we're asking anyone with something related to Native American culture to share it for the evening. If you have something that people would enjoy seeing, please let Pat Gordon know. (752-6561) It will be well guarded. Blankets, clothing, books, musical instruments—anything that will add interest to the evening. And all of you who have beautiful, jewelry—please plan to wear it to the banquet. We'll celebrate this wonderful facet of America's culture.

How Can We Get In On This?

Tickets are now on sale at A Book Store, 130 North 100 East, in Logan. Cost is \$12 per ticket. Sales will be limited to 150, because space is limited—it's not that we don't love you. To be sure your place is reserved, please pick up your tickets early. For your convenience, you may make reservations by mail. Send this form,

Name	
Addess	
Number of tickets	CCUME. NEV
Amount enclosed \$	(\$12 per ticket)
Phone Number	Terfohely, Andleanne

a check for the appropriate amount, and a selfaddressed stamped envelope to:

> BAS Banquet Tickets 718 North 200 East Logan, Utah 84321

This promises to be a wonderful evening of camaraderie, pleasure, and education. Isn't that what we all need at this time of year? Your presence will add that certain something to the occasion, so please plan to join us.

Pat Gordon
 Banqueteer

HONORABLE MENTION

Reinhard Jockel is the latest person to become a nember of the prestigious Cache 200 Club-awarded to hose who have seen 200 or more species of birds within Cache County over the years. Reinhard is a model for the accuracy of his records. He recently submitted a list of all the birds he has seen, going way back to his graduate student days here in the winter of 1963. He has listed the exact date and place where he saw each species and the group he was with. He got his real start with an ornithology class in 1964, but has added many new species while on Audubon field trips. Naturally, the latest additions are rather rare in Cache County including merlin, white-throated sparrow, golden plover, Nashville warbler, red-necked grebe, white-winged scoter, blue gray gnatcatcher, winter wren, yellow-billed cuckoo and scissor-tailed flycatcher. Reinhard keeps an equally meticulous record of the plants he observes on each of numerous hiking and camping trips (all of this without benefit of car). His plant total is about 800 species. Congratulations, Reinhard.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST: Who has the Cache 200 baseball caps?
Reinhard gets one. Contact Al Stokes, 752-2702.

LOST: (Dec. 7, 1992) Has anybody seen the blue and white Bridgerland Audubon Society banner? Contact Al Stokes, 752-2702.

CALL FOR LOBBYISTS!

A watchable wildlife program, a resolution on sustainable development, and additional funding for wildlife are three of the main issues that Audubon will probably be working on during the 1993 session of the Utah Legislature. But, I need your help!

I appreciate the opportunity to represent Audubon at the Utah Legislature for my fourth year. Sometimes I think I am beginning to understand how to be an effective lobbyist. I do know that the most effective lobbying of state legislators comes from their own constituents. Therefore, please volunteer to contact your state legislators during the 1993 session. (The Utah Legislature will be meeting from January 18 through March 3.)

They say your vote makes a difference. True. Contacting your legislator about specific issues makes even more of a difference.

Last year there were 77 lobbying network participants who represented 22 of the 29 Senate districts and 31 of the 75 House districts.

Volunteering to contact your legislators could take less than one hour a month for three months. Or, your help lobbying could take as much time as you want to give. Any amount is appreciated.

Wayne Martinson, Lobbyist
 Audubon Council of Utah

Hey, you budding politicos out there. Bridgerland Audubon is offering you the chance of a lifetime . . . okay, well at least a great opportunity for some good, clean fun.

Being a lobbyist, as Wayne said, takes very little time, and can be an effective method for Audubon members to voice their concerns. The job calls for you to be up on issues through reading a series of mailings prior to the session. You will need to be ready at short notice to contact your representative or senator regarding your concerns about specific issues.

If you are not a member of Audubon but would still like to participate, your efforts are welcome. We will be attempting to coordinate somewhat with other local groups, including the Sierra Club.

If you are interested please call Nadene at 753-0317 during the evenings. Thanks!

Nadene Steinhoff
 Bridgerland Audubon Lobbying Coordinator

WETLAND UPDATE

The last time I wrote an article on wetlands for *The Stilt* was June, 1992. Since then, there have been definite positive events and some not as positive. I would like to highlight a few of these and ask for any willing volunteers on specific projects.

The Positive Events

- Audubon has contributed to a wetlands restoration on Unit One of the Bear River Refuge. The dike, which will create up to 600 acres of wetland habitat, is almost complete.
- 2. The Great Salt Lake was designated as a site of Hemispheric Importance by the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network in August 1992
- 3. The Central Utah Project (CUP) passed Congress and was signed by President Bush. While CUP means losses to habitat, there will be a major effort to mitigate for this lost habitat and to compensate for losses that have already occurred under CUP. There will be major

wetlands work on the Great Salt Lake, Utah Lake and other areas. CUP can be a big plus if we help make it happen.

- 4. The Salt Lake Tribune has continued their tremendous series on the Great Salt Lake. In February 1993, the series will be combined into a 28 page tabloid that will be widely distributed and sold for about \$1.00.
- 5. The National Audubon Society continues to work on issues of the south shore of the Great Salt Lake. Major involvements include staffing a South Shore Coalition and examining possibilities for an Audubon Sanctuary.
- John Sigler (day phone 753-8933) is helping with wetlands in Northern Utah by taking your calls regarding wetlands, particularly if you believe an activity is violating the requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

A Disappointment Needing Renewed Effort

 The Bear River Refuge did not receive federal funding in 1992 for enhancement and expansion. We will try again in 1993.

A Call for Volunteers on Specific Projects

There are many projects that need to be accompanied on wetlands. I work on only a few of them. Volunteers who take on specific projects would be very much appreciated. Following is a list of specific needs. If you are interested call me at 355-8110.

- 1. Research, biological information and the politics of getting the Great Salt Lake designated as a wetland of international importance.
- 2. Personally examining, or writing a grant for someone else to look at, the success of mitigation sites approved the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
- Receive training on wetlands and wetlands protection and training others.
- 4. Raise funds by calling people who could donate to the Utah Wetlands role, or by selling *The Salt Lake Tribune* tabloid.
- 5. Use a computer program to provide mailing labels.
- Other things you would like to try under the auspices of Audubon.

— Wayne Martinson
Utah Wetlands Coordinator

RECYCLING CORNER

We warmly welcome the services of TC Curb-side Recycling to the citizens of Cache Valley. Instead of a weekly donation to the county landfill, you may now have recyclable items picked up at your home. TC hopes to have 400 contributors by late spring to maintain the service.

Policies of TC Curb-Side Recycling Service

- Pick-up is bi-weekly at curbside on a specified day of the week, depending on area.
- 2. Materials accepted:
 - · Glass Rinse (labels are ok).
 - Tin cans Rinse and crush (labels are ok).
 - Plastics (Types 1, 2 and 6) Check the recycling label (three arrows forming a triangle around a digit). Rinse all items.
 - · Aluminum (cans and foil) Rinse and crush.
 - Cardboard (ex: cereal boxes) Remove inner lining (if any), crush, and either place in a bag (ex: plastic or paper grocery sack)or tie together.
 - Newspaper—Bind with string or place in a bag as with cardboard.
 - Low-grade Paper (ex: junk mail) Place in bag.
- Materials which we accept and their preparation instructions may change according to restrictions or availability of recyclers.
- 4. If plastic or paper bags are used for containing recyclables we will take and recycle them. If boxes (either plastic or cardboard) are used we will leave them at residence.
- 5. Payment is to be made by the fifth of the month (\$5 for a residence) or six months in advance (\$28 for a residence).
- Service may be terminated by the customer at any time.
- This is a six month pilot program. If it proves feasible we are prepared to continue it indefinitely. Notice will be given in April 1993 of further intent.
- We will transport all recycling we receive to locations (ex: Hyrum, Ogden or Salt Lake City) for proper disposal. Any money we receive for salvage we will give to charity.
- We provide service in Logan, North Logan, Hyde Park, Smithfield, River Heights, Providence, Millville, Nibley, Hyrum, Young Ward, College Ward, Wellsville, and Mendon.
- If we have 20 residences in any other town in Cache Valley sign up, we will start service in that town.
- Stackable crates are available for \$2.25 each to help organize your household recycling.

Form to request curbside recycling service following policies outlined above.

Address		PO Box
City	Zip	Phone
I have understo the previous page		by stipulations stated or
Signature		Date
	es desired	
Number of crate Send \$5 or \$28	es desired and signed order	

REGIONAL NEWS

OTTERS REINTRODUCED TO THE GREEN RIVER

Since 1989, the Green River has been the site of several otter reintroductions. To date at least 56 river otters (Lutra canadensis) have been released. The ultimate goal of the reintroduction effort is to re-establish a native species throughout its former range, the entire Green River within Utah. Their presence has already added a delightful new dimension to area wildlife watching. The otter's whimsical nature has always caused outdoor lovers to refer to them as the "clown of the animal world." Indeed, watching these unpredictable creatures gives the viewer the feeling that the otters are "clowning around" for the viewer's personal viewing pleasure!

Several fishermen have reported otters swimming near their boats seemingly unconcerned by human intrusion. Unfortunately, two otter deaths have resulted from human contact, one being hit by an automobile and one hit in the head with a blunt instrument of some type.

The Green River was selected over other potential reintroduction sites because of: 1) the likely existence of a limited otter population; 2) its ample prey base; 3) inaccessibility by road; 4) compatible adjacent land users; 5) low trapping pressure; 6) high water quality; and 7) extensive beaver populations (which provide ample otter denning sites so crucial to their well-being).

In the fall of 1989, the first reintroduction tock place near Red Creek Rapids, with nine otters from Alaska and northern Nevada. Prior to release, they had been held at Hoagle Zoo for observation and recovery from transportation and surgery. Three female otters were surgically implanted with subparitoneal radio transmitters.

In the fall of 1990, seven males and seven females, trapped near Cordova, Alaska, were released near Little

Hole on the Green River. All 14 were vaccinated against distemper and parvovirus. Drugs were administered to rid the otter of several potential internal parasite species and long-acting penicillin was administered to aid the immune system. In order to better study their activity and to track their movements, all 14 were implanted with radio transmitters. Previously conducted studies in western North America indicated that all phases of the breeding cycle can still proceed successfully, even with radio implants.

During 1990, otters were also released at Island Park in Dinosaur National Monument. In 1991, otters were released at the Ouray National Refuge and at the Pariette Wetlands, both south of Vernal, Utah. In 1992, releases were initiated near Sand Wash near the north end of Desolation Canyon.

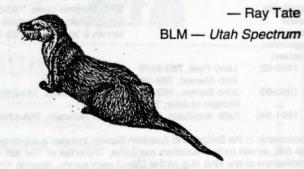
Some concern was voiced that, because of the feeding preference of otters (they eat fish), their introduction might pose a threat to upper Green River fisheries. There was even concern that otters might affect endangered fish species in the lower Green River. However, scat studies suggest most fish consumed by the otters appear to be slower moving carp and suckers. Otters within Flaming Gorge reservoir have concentrated almost totally on crayfish.

The otters now seem to have established "territories" along the Green River system. One otter seems to have done a lot of exploring prior to "settling down." It explored 85 miles downstream from the reintroduction site before settling on a spot just 20 miles from the site.

Although reproduction rates have not been as high as hoped, otter litters have been confirmed in 1990, 1991, and 1992. Some otters have died since being released; however, many with radio transmitters are still alive and are providing valuable information during periodic aerial surveys conducted by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

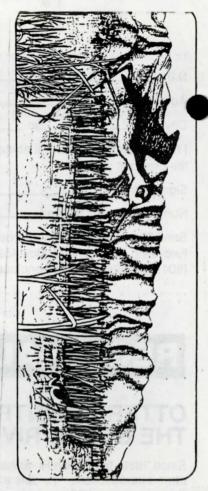
Several agencies and groups have cooperated in the reintroduction project. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources is the lead agency, and cooperators include: the Vernal District of the Bureau of Land Management; the Ashley National Forest; the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Dinosaur National Monument; and the Utah Trappers Association. Students from Kearns High School raised over \$2,000 to obtain otters at about \$300 each.

Only time will tell, but the cooperating agencies are optimistic that re-establishing otters within the Green River is off to a good start.



Illustrator: Deborah Wheeler

Phovidence UT 435 Canyon Rd P.O. Box 3501 — BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY Logan, UT 84323-350



Logan, Utah Permit No. 104 **DIA9** U.S. Postage BULK RATE Nonprofit Organization

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 Vice President Secretary Treasurer Conservation Education Membership Field Trips Newsletter Circulation **Publicity** Hospitality Hotline

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Recycling

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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.

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 STATE_ 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 W-52 P.O. Box 3501 Logan, UT 84323-3501 7XCHA

Subscriptions to The Stift are available to non-members for \$5.00 per year. Call Tom Gordon, 752-6561. Also, call Tom for new subscriptions or address changes.