

## BALD EAGLE DAY

Picture this: It's a bright winter day and after you ride up a hill your breath gets taken away by the hundreds of birds, many of which are bald eagles.

I woke up to get ready for a basketball game when my sister asked me if I wanted to go to Bald Eagle Day with her and a friend. So that's where I ended up instead of going to my game. And it was worth it.

We arrived at a Fred Meyer parking lot and ended up getting a ride with Allen Stokes, which was great because I got bird information for the day and that is how I ended up writing this. When we got there we set up telescopes and took out our cameras to enjoy the beautiful birds. There were bald eagles, seagulls, Canada geese, and a few ducks.

After some time we went and had lunch, then went over to check out what else was happening. We got a free pin and poster and I bought a Bald eagle poster for \$1.00. Also, there was some pretty good hot chocolate being served. Then my eyes were drawn to a poster showing hourly counts of eagles. I was amazed at how many bald eagles there were: 228! It probably went up too, because we left a little early.

span is about six to seven feet across. They can be found only in North America and have a life span of 30 to 50 years. Adult eagles have white on their head and tail and brown on the rest of the body. They are huge

birds but their call is surprisingly soft. They nest in tall trees by water usually and have about one to three eggs. Their favorite foods are fish, birds, and small mammals.

There were close to 75 people there, including some conservation officers. I think that if more people knew about it there could be a lot of people there because it is a great way to learn, see, and hear birds or whatever you might see.

- Andrew Watkins

### INSIDE

CALENDAR	2
HOTLINE	3
REGIONAL NEWS	4
WILDLIFE CONFERENCE	7

### Calendar

Thursday, March 10. BAS General Meeting at 7:30 pm. The latest issue of *Audubon* featured a story on the West's wild horses—our speaker will do the same! Join us for our monthly general meeting in the Logan City building and share Dr. Mike Wolfe's experiences working with the wild horses and burros in western Nevada. Dr. Wolfe will address the management of these herds, discuss mountain lion predation on wild horses, and he'll tie in an international connection with his work on wild horses in Australia. Great slides, timely topic—make your plans to attend!

Wednesday, March 16. <u>BAS Planning Meeting at 7 pm.</u> We'll meet at Alice Lindahl's new home, 1738 Country Club Drive. All board members, officers, chairpersons and any interested members are encouraged to attend.

### **Field Trips**

Saturday, March 5. Bald eagles at Willard Canyon. A great way to watch eagles as they fly into Willard Canyon to roost and to soar above us. A rigorous hike to be led by Jim Sinclair and Reinhard Jockel which takes you to a lookout overlooking the canyon and closer looks as the eagles fly in and soar. Viewing is good down below. This is a good chance to see migrating bluebirds, a few early butterflies, and the tiny Draba wildflower. Leave at noon at the southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot and bring a lunch.

Saturday, March 19. Waterfowl and March Birds.
Leave at 8 am from the southwest corner of Fred
Meyer's parking lot. Return by noon. There will be
hundreds of ducks on the famous 20-20 ponds. Herons
should be on their nests along Mendon Road and
sandhill cranes will be calling.

Saturday, April 2. Valley Birds: Gulls. Blackbirds. Shorebirds. Leave at 2 pm from the southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot and return by 5 pm. Bring somebody new to our field trips.

Friday, April 15. Annual Grouse Camping Trip. Don't miss seeing the spectacular courtship dances of both sage and sharp-tailed grouse about 90 miles west of Logan. Camp by the side of Stone Reservoir to see loons. Then a pre-dawn view of the grouse. Leave at 1 pm from the southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot. Return by early Saturday afternoon. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. Call Al Stokes at 752-2702.

PLAN AHEAD for camping trips to Antelope Island (May 21 and Massacre Rocks State Park, Idaho, May 28-29.)

# **Common Ground Outdoor Adventures**

Thursday, March 17 and Thursday, April 7. <u>Downhill Skiing at Park City.</u> Both people with and without disabilities are invited to join us for a day of downhill skiing. Park City has an adaptive ski program for people with disabilities. After skiing, we'll go for dinner in Park City. Meet at OPTIONS for Independence, 1095 N. Main, at 9 am. Cost is \$15 for people with disabilities; \$20 for people without disabilities. Cost includes equipment rental, a lift pass, and a two-hour lesson (if needed).

Thanks to the Audubon members who helped make the Teton Canyon dog sled trip a huge success. We had a great time and plan to do it again next fall.

Anyone interested in downhill skiing in March and April needs to attend the pre-trip meeting on Tuesday, March 8 at 6 pm at OPTIONS, 1095 N. Main in Logan. (Be sure to take note of the change of date.) We will be discussing additional days to ski in both Park City and Pocatello. Both areas have adaptive ski programs that involve people with and without disabilities.

COMMON GROUND is currently putting together a new steering committee for 1994. The committee will meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm to evaluate the program and offer suggestions as well as eat food and have a good time. Our first steering committee meeting will be held Wednesday, March 2 at 7:30 pm at Kassie Claughton and Todd Sherman's 96 E. 500 S. in Logan. Anyone interested in becoming a part of the steering committee or just finding out more about the program is welcome to attend.

For more information, please contact Kate Stephens at 753-5353.

#### **Smith's Gift Food Certificates**

For every \$100 in gift certificates we sell, Bridgerland Audubon will make \$10. You buy a \$20 certificate and can then use it for \$20 of purchases. So you get full value and Audubon benefits. The income generated will help develop Stewart Wildlife Park along the Logan River at the east end of First South. It's a real hidden gem. Call Stokes and he will deliver the certificates to you 752-2702.





Things are looking up: telephone traffic on the Hotline is increasing. This month we took several calls, and one was actually about a bird someone saw! We are temporarily giddy at such a sense of purpose.

Anyway, the persons who saw a bird and called about it were Norb and Mary DeByle, who saw a bald eagle in Logan Canyon the weekend of February 12-13. The eagle was fishing in the Second and Third Dam areas. Thanks, Norb and Mary! Also Reinhard (the loyal) Jockel called to check in after having the greatest Utah Bald Eagle Day ever, reporting that a large group from Cache Valley saw more than 200 eagles in Box Elder County on February 5.



The other calls came from a Provo birder looking for a good excuse to make a weekend drive to the north country, in hopes we had something Hot with a capital H (he was one of those who drove 100 miles to see the scissor-tailed flycatcher in July of '92), and from a Dear Soul seeking further instructions for last month's recipe for roast chicken. (The answer to that is NO, absolutely do not cover the chicken or it will become steamed chicken, and therefore will not develop that crusty. browned and savory skin-although if you are also roasting vegetables in the same pan as the chicken, you might elect to lay strips of tin foil loosely over the vegetables. Depending, of course, on whether you like browned vegetables. Also, just for the record, if you have no extra-virgin olive oil to drizzle lightly over the vegies, you can cheat and mist them gently with butterflavored Pam. I would never admit to doing such a thing, but it will work in a pinch and nobody will even notice.)

Everyone who's been out to check on what's happening, birdwise, has likely observed that the Canada geese have returned to nest by the hundreds, maybe thousands, and it's a good month earlier than last year. We counted 300-400 February 5. Other harbingers of spring included a red-winged blackbird trilling in our maple tree, and winter aconite blooming bright yellow under the pussy willow. Still, the snow keeps falling but we are happy because the sun shines gamely between storms and prevents that usual Cache Valley winter ailment, SAD (Seasonal Affective Disorder)—that horrid

inversion paralysis that turns perfectly decent family members into evil trolls and makes us want to hibernate until May.

If you'd like to make a good-hearted gesture toward the loyal but non-hot birds that come faithfully to eat from your feeder, consider this:

#### APPLE PUDDING

(from Feed the Birds, by Helen & Dick Witty)

- 2 cups rendered suet, bacon fat or lard
- 3 cups chopped apples, including seeds and cores
- 1 cup brown sugar, packed
- 1 cup chopped raisins
- 3 cups dry crumbs (cake, cookie and/or bread)
- 1 cup rolled oats (any kind)
- 1 cup peanut butter (any kind)

In a skillet or saucepan, warm the fat until it's just pourable. Meanwhile, stir together the remaining ingredients. Gradually add the fat to the other ingredients until a sample just holds its shape when squeezed. (Save any surplus fat.) Press into muffin cups fitted with paper liners, or pack into a loaf pan or square baking pan lined with plastic or foil. Clean tuna or cat food cans can also be used (no need for liners). Chill until firm.

To serve, hang one or two muffins, with paper liners removed, or a hefty chunk of the loaf, in a mesh bag. (If you rush out and buy this little bird recipe book, it will come with its own Bird Food Bag—but you can also make one out of any mesh cloth with 1/8-inch holes.) Other presentations at the birds' table include tacking the filled cans to a post or tree, or placing a smallish chunk of pudding in your suet feeder.

DO NOT eat this yourself, unless you have no meat on your bones and zero cholesterol. The book says it will keep in the refrigerator, well wrapped, for three days—or will freeze for a month.

And here we are, ready for the spring migration to brighten up our corner of Utah. It should be along real soon now, so start packing those binoculars with you on short trips around the valley. Mid-March is when things really pick up in a normal year. Last year, sandhill cranes were dancing in Benson on March 7, greenwinged teal were here by March 11 and snow geese by March 12. There were flocks of bluebirds that same week, out by the airport. This year who'll be first to see these? If it's you, please call so we can all enjoy!

- Nancy Williams, 753-6268

P.S. Just as we were about to dash out the door with this way-past-deadline column, Pat Gordon called to say she and husband Tom had seen 250 bald eagles at Salt Creek, off toward Compton's Knoll, on February 19. Take a spotting scope, advises Pat.

### **LOCAL NEWS**

#### **Awards Banquet Revisited**

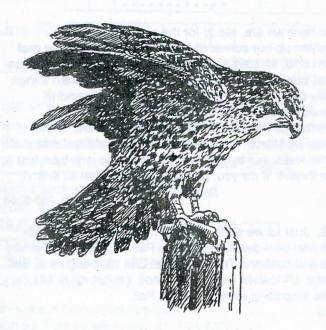
The annual Audubon banquet, held on the full moon of January, was a great time for all involved. One hundred plus birders flocked to the Bullen Arts Center to feast on appetizers provided by Elizabeth Walker and friends, wine donated by many and salmon and stuffed chicken breasts courtesy of Dan Kramer's catering.

An award for outstanding conservation efforts was given to a totally surprised Ellen Cantrell for starting her curbside recycling business. An award for environmental education was given to Kayo Richardson for his work with Audubon Young Naturalists. Kayo read from a few moving essays written by promising young environmentalists.

Singer-Songwriter Nadene Steinhoff opened the evening's entertainment with a couple of rousing numbers. Past Bridgerland president, Val Grant, capped off a perfect night with a very amusing inside look at the business of field biology.

Special kudos to banqueteer extraordinaire, Pat Gordon, for making this one of the gala events of the Cache social season. Thanks also to everyone who donated food, drink or decorations. Thanks to Veda DePaepe and Larry Ryel for helping set up and thanks to Diane Browning of A Bookstore for being our ticket outlet.

— Dawn Holzer



## REGIONAL NEWS

### The Tucson Audubon Society's 24th Annual Institute of Desert Ecology

The 1994 Institute of Desert Ecology will be held April 28 to May 1 in a camp set against the spectacular backdrop of the Santa Catalina Mountains at Catalina State Park. This program brings together 60 participants and six expert instructors for field studies of the Sonoran Desert ecosystem. Studies focus on the relationship between plant life, animals and the physical characteristics of the deserts. The registration fee of \$275 per person includes instruction, camp services and all meals. Participants must be 18 or older and must furnish their own tents or campers. A limited number of partial scholarships are available. University credit is available for an additional fee. For further information, please contact Cynthia Lindquist, Tucson Audubon Society, Institute of Desert Ecology, 300 E. University Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85705. Daytime phone (602) 629-0757.



### **Population Conference**

The first conference on Population, Growth, Ethics and the Environment held at the University Park Hotel in Salt Lake City on January 29 was a resounding sold out success. Over 500 people registered and more had to be turned away at the door. Several carloads of Bridgerland members attended discussion groups on topics such as "Are Religious Groups Doing Enough?" and "Growth, How Much Is Too Much?" Some of the sessions were broadcast live on local National Public Radio stations. The conference brought together a large and diverse group of people to begin discussion of this important topic.



Watch a butterfly, listen to a bird, experience the wind-worn smells of nature, follow an animal track in the snow. These opportunities await you at the Stewart Nature Park, which is located at 100 S. and 700 E.

A bridge leads across the river and into a grassy field. Ghost paths trace their way through the four acre area. The park is bordered on one side by the Logan River, and the wooded hills leading to River Heights border the other. T

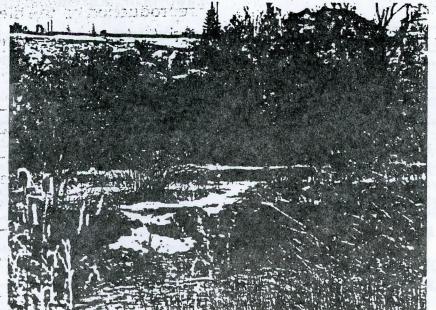
The Stewart Nature Park is a community effort reflecting the commitment of the Cache Valley citizens towards caring for their natural environment. The list of volunteers who have provided both their time and expertise is seemingly endless.

Future plans for the park include a trail system with interpretive signs, an information shelter, an amphitheater, and an observation deck near the Logan River. Plans also include the reintroduction of native plants, and places for rest and contemplation. The ultimate goal is to establish an outdoor classroom that is beautiful, informative and accessible to all.

To provide funds for these improvements to the park L.E.A.F. (The Logan High environmental club) is selling engraved granite tiles. The tiles are one-foot square mahogany granite and are professionally engraved by Logan Monument. The tiles will be permanently placed in the park.

The two types of tiles are text and graphics. The text tiles contain three lines of text with twelve letters per line. These are perfect for short sayings or your family name. Tiles with more than the allotted letters or special type, such as family trees, are considered graphic tiles. Graphic tiles also include tiles with just graphics or graphics and text such as company logos or family crests. To facilitate quality engraving all artwork should be simple line drawings.

Through continued community support our dreams are becoming a reality. Please join us in creating a nature park dedicated to the understanding and appreciation of our natural environment.



See other side for order form and prices. All costs are tax deductible. Orders received before Feb. 20th will be placed in the park during Earth Week. Orders received after Feb. 20 will be placed in the park throughout the summer and fall.

### STEWART NATURE PARK

ENGRAVED GRANITE TILE ORDER FORM

1" high letters
12 letters per line
3 lines

\$60.00 for Audubon Members
\$100.00 for Other Individuals
\$200.00 for Businesses

GRAPHICS

Line Drawings
of
Business Logos
Family Crests
etc...

\$100.00 for Audubon Members \$150.00 for Other Individuals \$200.00 for Businesses

Both tiles are one foot square mahogany granite and are professionally engraved by Logan Monument. The tiles will be placed permanently in the park.

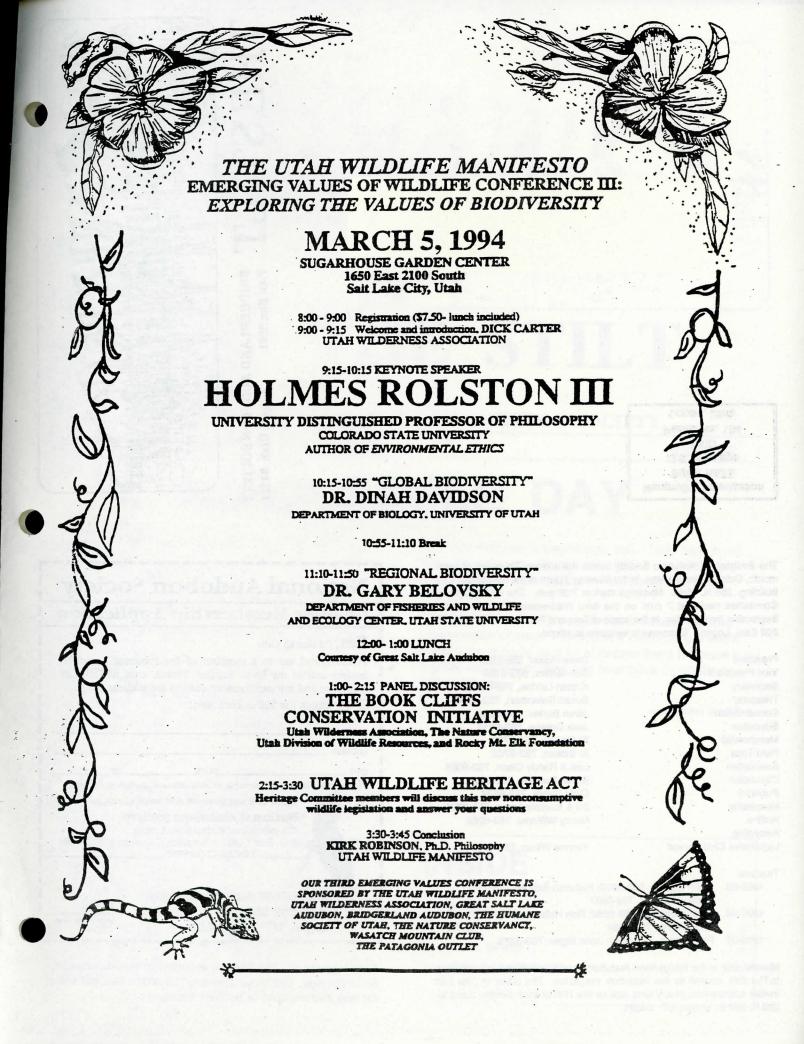
L.E.A.F. (The Logan High Environmental Club) will use the funds raised to restore Stewart Nature Park.

TEXT TILE	GRAPHICS TILE
Please print text requested in boxes provided below.	the
Line #1	☐ I request text not included in the
Line #2	drawing and have included it below.
Line #3	
Tiles with additional text or special fonts are considered graphic tiles. If you choose to us this option, please include a drawing displathe way you would like the text arranged.	se     I have a preferred font style and/or
Mail check or money order and order form to:	Name Phone
BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY STEWART NATURE PARK	Address
1780 EAST 1400 NORTH LOGAN, UT 84321	☐ Text tile ☐ Audubon ☐ Individual ☐ Business

ALL COSTS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

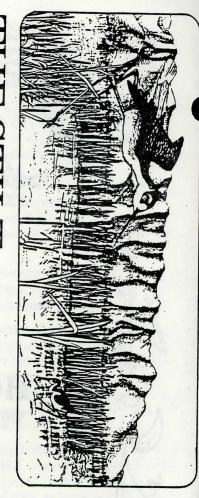
For more information contact

Saundra Schimmelpfennig at 755-0779.



Providence UT 84332 435 Canyon Rd Mervin & Mae Coover

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



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

Dawn Holzer, 258-5205 Don McIvor, 563-6189 Kristen LaVine, 753-5970 Susan Robertson, 752-4598 Jaren Barker, 753-0242 Jack Greene, 563-6816 Al Stokes, 752-2702 Al Stokes, 752-2702 Lois & Randy Olson, 752-9085 Susan Durham, 752-5637 Chris Sands, 755-9524 Bill & Marjorie Lewis, 753-8724 Nancy Williams, 753-6268

Yvonne Wilder, 563-6437

Trustees

Recycling

Legislative Chairperson

1990-93 John Barnes, 563-3910; Rebecca Echols, 753-2367 Richard Mueller, 752-5637

Keith Archibald, 752-8258; Ron Hellstern, 753-8750 1991-94 Bill Ehmann, 752-1684

1993-95 Pat Gordon, 752-6561; John Sigler, 753-5879

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 280 N. 300 E., Logan, UT 84321.

<b>National</b>	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 cneck	for \$20 is enclosed.	
NAME		
ADDRESS	WA BEEL	
GTY	STATE	
Please make a	ll checks payable to the Nationa	
	Send this application and	
	National Audubon So	ociety

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

Subscriptions to The Stilt are available to non-members for \$5.00 per year. Call Susan Durham, 752-5637. Also, call Susan for new subscriptions or address changes.