We, The Naturalists

When we go out to view creation,
Our greatest joy is identification.
Identify birds, identify flowers,
Identify for hours and hours;
Identify everything under the sun,
Identify till the day is done.

Identify! Identify!
This is the nature lover's cry.
Whatever thing you may espy,
Just clap your glasses to your eye,
And grit your teeth and identify.

Don't waste your time on wilderness beauty;
To identify is the paramount duty.
Under the ornithological system
The main thing is to see birds and list 'em;
And if you, yourself, shouldn't see the bird,
List what some other man saw or heard.

Identify! Identify!
This is the nature lover's cry.
Whatever thing you may espy,
Just clap your glasses to your eye,
And grit your teeth and identify.

Ted Evans' grandmother was an enthusiastic amateur naturalist as were so many other Philadelphia Quakers of her day. Many a morning I went birding with her on the spacious estate on the edge of Philadelphia. Her husband, Edward W. Evans, for whom Ted was named, was a rather conservative law professor who had far less interest in the outdoors. Instead he enjoyed writing and reciting poetry such as "We, The Naturalists.

— Alan Stokes

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Calendar

Thursday, March 9. Monthly Meeting, 7:30 pm, Logan City Building. For this month's meeting we'll have a multi-media presentation entitled, "Exploring the Uintah Mountains." Wendy Goetz (photographer), and Kevin Tippets (musician) have teamed up to produce a slide presentation with live musical accompaniment.

Wednesday, March 15. BAS Planning Meeting, 7 pm. Chair and board (not bored) people join to discuss projects. Members' input always welcome. special bonus this month will be election of new officers. Come out and help select BAS' next leaders. Marjorie Lewis will host this month at 1277 E. 100 S. in Logan.

Thursday, April 13. BAS Annual Banquet, 6:30 pm, The Old Rock Church, 10 S. Main, Providence. Dr. Jack Schmidt will speak on "The Rivers and Canyons of the Colorado Plateau."

Thursday, May 11. Monthly Meeting, 7:30 pm, Logan City Building. This will be our last meeting of the season. Roger Senata, who was recently hired to manage solid waste disposal in Cache Valley, will speak about the innovations he is bringing to his job and the valley. Come find out about plans for community-wide recycling efforts, how hazardous materials are handled . . . and more.

Field Trips

Saturday, March 11. Bald Eagles at Willard. (Note change of date.) This annual outing to observe bald eagles above the town of Willard is one for the intrepid and for those seeking to escape Cache Valley's cabin fever. First stop will be at Willard Bay State Park about 10 miles south of Brigham City where eagles have been roosting all winter. From there the group will drive to the edge of the Willard gravel pit and climb up a narrow ravine to a more gentle ridge and on up to a splendid lookout overlooking Willard Canyon. From there one can see eagles flying in, then circling at eye level before heading up the canyon to roost in large Douglas firs. While hiking we may see some early wildflowers already in bloom, mountain bluebirds on their way north and even some early-emerging ground squirrels. Intrepid leaders will be Reinhard Jockel and Jim Sinclair. Leave at 10 am from the southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot and return by 5 pm. Bring lunch and wear good boots suitable for the climb. Usually the snow is pretty well melted off by then. If in doubt about the trip call Jim at 752-0061.

Saturday, March 18. Waterfowl and other early migrants. Waterfowl should be here in good numbers. In addition great blue herons will be back at their rookery on Mendon Road as well as sandhill cranes. Leave at 8 am from the southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot and return by noon.

Common Ground Outdoor Adventures

Saturday, March 18. Cross-Country Ski Trip. Meet at OPTIONS, 1095 N. Main at 9:30 am. We'll let the snow dictate our destination.

Friday-Sunday, March 10-12. Teton Snowshoe/Cross-Country Ski Trip. Friday night will be spent at the Old West Cabins in Jackson, Wyoming. Saturday will include a winter ecology snowshoe hike followed by an afternoon of Cross-Country Skiing at Jenny Lake. Saturday night will be spent at Teton Science School in Grand Teton National Park. Sunday morning we'll go for a morning ski and head back home. All this, including food, for only $35.00 What a deal!

*Mandatory Pre-Trip Meeting: Wednesday, March 1 at 7:30 pm at Kassie & Todd's, 96 E. 500 S. in Logan.

All trips involve people with and without disabilities and are adapted to accommodate everyone's needs.

For more information call 753-5353 and ask for Kate or Shauna.

Annual April Membership Meeting

The annual BAS awards banquet will replace the April general meeting. Four new Board of Trustee members will also be elected for a three year term at that time. Each member whose dues are current is entitled to vote. Vote for or against the following nominees either at the banquet or by mailing this ballot to BAS, PO Box 3501, Logan, Utah 84323-3501 by April 15.

For Against
Jan Anderson __________  __________
Ted Evans __________  __________
Dawn Holzer __________  __________
Glen Gantz __________  __________
Your Handy BAS Guide to the Spring Bird Migration in Cache County

I need a Franklin's Pollyflobble. But they only migrate through Cache County during a short period. So, what I wanted to know was, when—exactly—is the Pollyflobble expected to arrive? For that matter, when are any of the migratory birds expected to arrive in Cache County? I mean, there's a lot of birding to do and you gotta target your efforts if you want to make the most of it!

The BAS Birds of Cache County, Checklist & Site Guide 1994 lists 242 species which have been seen regularly in Cache County and another 44 which have been seen at least twice in the last 30 years. (There were lots of changes to the older list, so you'll want the new 1994 edition, available at the next Audubon meeting, or from A Bookstore on 100 East in Logan.) This Checklist has information on occurrence by season along with preferred habitat for each species, and in the back there are handy descriptions of suggested travel routes to favorite birding sites.

Not all of these birds migrate, of course. And some of them are only seen on the fall migration. So, last year I asked several of the local birders to share their year lists with me. I fired up the ol' PC and entered the dates of first sightings in a database. Needless to say, there's megagobs of data, and I'm not finished entering all of it yet. But, spring is almost sprung, and if anyone is gonna be able to use the results, I decided I'd best get them out there. So, here's the result.

The list below shows the date each spring migrant can be expected to show up in Cache County, based on the average of a number of first sighting dates. I've also printed the earliest date in the database, along with the standard deviation and number of observations. You can use the standard deviation to determine how variable the sightings (and presumably the arrival dates) are. Roughly, you'd expect about 2/3 of all sightings to fall within one standard deviation of the average date.

So, if the average arrival date of the Franklin's Pollyflobble is April 12, with a standard deviation of 7, then 2/3 of the first sightings fall between April 5-19. If you report a Franklin's Pollyflobble in late February, everyone will be real excited, know whadda mean? You get the idea.

Mucho thanks to everyone who's provided me with data so far. They may not know who they are, but they include: Alice Stewart, Al Stokes, E. Hanson, Ed Sparks, Gail Christenson, Ivan Palmblad, John and Terri Barnes, J. Smith, J. Sullivan, Keith and Martha Dixon, Mike Tove, Nancy Warner, Pete Schropp, Bob Atwood, R. Roehlman, S. Silcox, S. Jacoby, Steve van der Wall, and special thanks to Larry Ryel and Keith Archibald.

Have a great migration! — Bryan Dixon
BAS Annual Banquet

Dr. Jack Schmidt to speak on
"The Colorado River Plateau"

The annual Audubon Banquet has been scheduled for Thursday, April 13, 1995 at 6:30 p.m. at the Old Rock Church, 10 South Main in Providence. Dr. Jack Schmidt will be our guest speaker this year, and the title of his talk is "The Rivers and Canyons of the Colorado Plateau: the Water Management Dilemma." In keeping with the western theme of Dr. Schmidt's talk the fare of the evening will be "Catered Grazing," an hour or so of socializing and filling up on finger foods and yummies. Plan to make it a meal. Asking volunteers to bring some boxed wine, and you're welcome to BYOB. Non-alcoholic beverages also available. Dr. Schmidt's talk will be preceded by our Conservation and Education Awards, and we have some great candidates this year, so be sure to come! Cost is $13 per AUM (Audubon Unit Mouth) available at A Bookstore, 130 North 100 East, and the Straw Ibis, 52 Federal Avenue, in Logan.

If you'd be willing to help out with decorations (got any good CFDs - cow floatation devices?), please call Dawn Holzer at 258-5205 or Bryan Dixon at 752-6830.

Sandhill Crane Days '95

Talk to those lucky folks who attended last year's event and you won't want to miss a wonderful two days (September 8 and 9) in Cache Valley, watching hundreds of cranes in their last days in Utah before migrating to warmer climes. The $35 fee includes a great Saturday night cookout and lively program of crane poetry and stories in lovely Logan Canyon, a full morning of birdwatching in the marshes and on the slopes of the Wellsville Mountains, Wilderness, an educational program and a reception for all who attend. BUT, IN ORDER TO KEEP OUR IMPACT ON THESE SPECTACULAR MIGRANTS TO AN ABSOLUTE MINIMUM, WE WILL CONTINUE TO LIMIT PARTICIPATION TO THE FIRST ONE HUNDRED REGISTRANTS. Tell your friends! Contact us soon: Sandhill Crane Days, c/o Spirit of Utah Wilderness, 1234 Sherman Avenue, SLC, Utah 84105. This festival is sponsored by Great Salt Lake Audubon, Bridgerland Audubon, Utah Wilderness Association, Utah Wildlife Manifesto, and many other friends of Utah's cranes.
Drop off your Aluminum Cans for BAS.
Price of Aluminum Cans has gone up to 40¢ a pound.

Recycling
TC Recycling has over 600 customers and is now collecting enough glass to ship to Denver and is hoping to ship paper to California. If anyone would like more information, contact TC Recycling at 563-5268.

Wildlife Heritage Certificates
Wildlife Heritage Certificates are now on sale for $15 at the Division of Wildlife Resources office (recently relocated to 1025 Motor Ave. in the old Driver’s License Division at the State Fairgrounds). Why not do something WILD for wildlife? Everyone can help Utah’s natives. Watch this space for more details on programs and benefits of the Heritage program.

Sunflower Seeds
Buy your sunflower seeds now. A 50lb bag is $15.00. Available at: Sunrise Cyclery, 138 North 100 East or from Al Stokes, 1722 Saddle Hill Dr., 752-2702.

New Members
Renee M A Awana
Bill Bowlin
Michelle Brown
A Capehart
Mark T Donnelly
Rena Everton
R Slade & A Gillespie
Terry A Hall
Barbara Harlan
Lu Jean J Henry
Gus A Koerner
Peggy Linn
Z McBride
Emma K. Olsen
Terry L Sharik
Kara M Suty
Larry Winborg

Renewing Members
Joyce Anderson
R K Archibald
Robert D Atwood
Mindy Bell
Beth Bostom
Lavell F Bradley
Eric R Cannon
W Bryan Dixon & Jean Lown
Kenneth Jenner
Reihard A Jockel
Joyce Kinkead & David Lancy
Karen E Krogh
Jill Morgan
North Cache Middle School
Jack Payne
Ann W Peralta
Devoe C Rickert
Sue Robertson
Rex E Robinson
Jack Schmidt & Barbara Rusmore
Dan & Kendra Warren

Fourth Annual Conference on the Emerging Values of Wildlife
EXPLORING OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH WILDLIFE
March 18, 1995
Sugarhouse Garden Center
1650 East 2100 South, Salt Lake City

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. — Registration ($7.50 includes lunch)
9:00 a.m. — Opening Remarks, Dick Carter
Utah Wilderness Association
9:15 a.m. — Guest Speaker: Thomas J. Lyon
Editor, *This Incomparable Lande* and *On Nature’s Terms*
Associate Professor of English, US U
10:30 - 12:00 — “Forging New Relationships With Wildlife”
A panel of experts discuss how we relate with wildlife as individuals, communities and institutions
Connie Bullis, Moderator
LUNCHEON courtesy of Great Salt Lake Audubon
1:15 p.m. — “Sharing the Personal Vision”
An introduction to an afternoon of guided workshops
Margaret Pettis, Utah Wildlife Manifesto
1:30 - 2:45 p.m. — Facilitated sessions devoted to emerging values of wildlife
Norm Elliot, coordinator
3:00 p.m. — Concluding remarks

Sponsored by Utah Wildlife Manifesto, Utah Wilderness Association, Great Salt Lake Audubon Society
Bear River Clean-up
Volunteers Needed

The Bridgerland Audubon Society has plans to assist the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other conservation organizations to fence off some stretches of the Bear River banks where the vegetation has been depleted or completely destroyed by livestock. The number of areas will be limited to four or five for this year and will be subject to first obtaining the agreement and co-operation of the landowner(s). For this year we will concentrate on the river stretch between Cutler Reservoir and Trenton. After construction of the fences, the area between the fence and the river will be revegetated with willows, grass and other plants. In addition, if the overgrazed area on the side of the fence away from the river is large, then we will plan to subdivide that area with additional fences to allow for rotational grazing. Plans are to continue this project into the future until the Bear River riparian areas are completely restored.

We have estimated that half the cost will be for materials and half for labor. This means that if volunteers do the fencing and planting, then we can double the area of repair with the funds available! Therefore we are encouraging as many people as possible to join us in implementing this improvement to our community! Most of the work will probably be done on Saturdays, but we will be happy to arrange weekday groups if enough people are interested. We will probably begin work in early April or shortly thereafter (as soon as we have selected the four or five areas and have obtained the approval of the head office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service).

If you know of other volunteer groups who might be interested in this type of project, please let me know where they can be contacted. Volunteers will be contacted as soon as definite work dates are made.

To volunteer contact: Nick Strickland
1060 North 1600 East
Logan, UT 84341
Phone: 750-5035
(8 am - 8 pm)

Utah’s Wilderness Threatened

A 1987 statewide survey completed by Arden Pope of BYU indicated that 79% of Utahns want more Wilderness. How much more is currently being debated by Utah’s Congressional delegation. Governor Mike Leavitt has initiated a process for involving local government in the counties most impacted. Although involving local citizens in the decision making process generally has merit, in this situation the issue goes far beyond local concern. The lands in question are of national significance for many reasons, thus should involve a much broader population. If you are acquainted with these natural treasures, your voice must be heard.

Wilderness would have minimal, if any negative economic impact on the lives of our state’s citizens in the short term, and predictably a positive impact in the long term. The areas being studied are currently being managed as Wilderness pending Congressional decision on their qualification to be added to the national wilderness system. If designated, none of their traditional uses would change, including hunting, fishing, grazing and mining where currently existing.

Utah and the 48 contiguous states have very little designated Wilderness, less than 2% of the total land base. Even if all of the BLM lands proposed by the Utah Wilderness Coalition were added, it would represent about 10% of Utah’s land leaving the remaining 90% open for business as usual. Most of these lands are of little value for agriculture, timber or minerals but are of considerable value for recreation and tourism, the leading and most rapidly growing industries, and as wildlife habitat for a number of sensitive plant and animal species. Building roads in these critical areas would further the relentless assault on our endangered wildlands.

Things You Can Do To Become Involved

Call or write Congressman James Hansen at White House, Washington, D.C. 20500 and Governor Mike Leavitt at 210 State Capitol, SLC, UT 84114 urging them to extend the public meeting process on BLM Wilderness to Cache County and other Utah communities.

Insist there be an investigation of the BLM’s flawed wilderness inventory and that the errors be corrected before the Utah delegation proceeds with the drafting of its own wilderness bill.

Consider urging support for the Utah Wilderness Coalition’s 5.7 million acre proposal. They have done an exhaustive study on suitability. Their results are available by calling 467-9294.

Jack Green
500 Summit Creek Dr.
Smithfield, UT
563-6816
NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
Rocky Mountain Region

Spring Migratory Bird Conference in Boise, Idaho
May 19-23, 1995

The conference will be hosted by the Golden Eagle Audubon Society, will take place on the campus of Boise State University and will have as its theme Audubon's Migratory Bird Program.

Boise is a particularly strategic location as it is the headquarters for both the BLM's migratory bird program and their international raptor work, and is also the location of the Peregrine Fund's World Center for Birds of Prey. Field trips will take place to the Snake River Canyon Birds of Prey Natural Area and to Al Larson's popular bluebird trails in the surrounding foothills, as well as short walking trips along the Boise River Greenway. Just as in 1984 we are fortunate to again have access to the meeting facilities, lodging and meal service at Boise State University, adjoining the Greenway.

To help you plan your travel and registration, our tentative agenda will be as follows:

Friday: Arrival, Registration, Evening Get-Together
Saturday: Morning General Session, Afternoon Workshop, Evening Banquet
Sunday: Morning Workshops, Wrap-Up, Afternoon Field Trip, Evening Get-Together
Monday & Tuesday: All-Day Field Trips

PLEASE FILL OUT THE FORM BELOW AND MAIL IT BACK TO US BY APRIL 28. BANQUET NUMBERS MUST BE GIVEN TO THE CATERER BY THE END OF APRIL AND, IN ADDITION, THE TOUR COMPANY REQUIRES OUR FINAL NUMBERS BY THE SAME DATE. THEREFORE, WE MUST ASK YOU TO SIGN UP AND MAIL IN YOUR REGISTRATION BY APRIL 28.

Regarding lodging, please note that to keep costs low and in response to your requests we are using university dormitory facilities—there is one women's and one men's bathroom on each floor. If you request a double room and don't specify a roommate, we may need to assign a roommate to you. There are several motels near the campus should you prefer this option and there is also a campsite not far from the university. Hope to see you there!

Registration Form

Last Name ___________________________ First Name for Badge ___________________________
Chapter ___________________________ Phone ___________________________
Street ___________________________ City ___________________________ State ___________________________ Zip ___________________________

• Registration: _______ persons x $15/person (no registration fee for children) $ _______

• Lodging: I wish a single room for the following nights:
  I wish to share a room with: ___________________________ for the following nights:
  Fri. [ ] Sat. [ ] Sun. [ ] Mon. [ ] Tues. [ ] = _______ nights x $12.50/person $ _______

• Please sign me up for the following field trips (prices include a boxed lunch for the all-day trips)

  Participant Name: ___________________________
  (a) World Center Birds of Prey ($25): Sunday Afternoon [ ] $ _______
  (b) Snake River Float ($80) Monday [ ] $ _______
  (c) Bluebird Trail ($35) Monday [ ] or Tuesday [ ] $ _______
  I would like a vegetarian boxed lunch [ ]

• I (we) expect to purchase meals at the University Cafeteria: Yes [ ] No [ ]

• I (we) would like more information on the children's program: Yes [ ] No [ ]

Please return this form with your registration fee (check made payable to National Audubon Society) to NAS, Rocky Mountain Regional Office, 4150 Darley Ave. #5, Boulder, CO 80303. DON'T FORGET: The fieldtrip and banquet deadline is APRIL 28! Any questions?
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. Locations may change monthly. Check calendar page. Everyone is welcome to attend.

President: Dawn Holzer, 258-5205
Vice President: Don Mclvor, 563-6189
Secretary: Kristen LaVine, 753-5970
Treasurer: Susan Robertson, 752-4598
Conservation: Jack Greene, 563-6816
Education: Al Stokes, 752-2702
Membership: Al Stokes, 752-2702
Field Trips: Lois & Randy Olson, 752-9085
Newsletter: Susan Durham, 752-5637
Circulation: Beth Welden, 753-0080
Publicity: Bill & Marjorie Lewis, 753-8724
Hospitality: Nancy Williams, 753-6268
Hotline: Lois & Randy Olson, 752-9085

Legislative Chairperson: Kristen LaVine, 753-5970
Membership: Susan Robertson, 752-4598

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, CO 80322-1001

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.