

AMES AUDUBON

NEWSLETTER

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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Tuesday, December 9, 7:30 p.m. Organizational meeting for those interesting in participating in the annual Christmas Bird Census in the Ames area. Steve Hanselmann and Jim Rod have graciously agreed to serve as co-chairmen of the local project this year. This meeting will be held at Jim's home at 1508 Kellogg in Ames. All interested persons are cordially invited to attend. See elsewhere this issue for more details.

Thursday, December 11, 7:30 p.m., Kildee Auditorium, I.S.M. Public information program on "What Future for the Everglades National Park?" Sponsored by your Ames Audubon Society with the cooperation of Iowa St. Ecology Group. Features color films and slides, first-hand reports, panel discussion, and audience participation. Free-open to the public. This program will demonstrate what average citizens can do if only they set their minds to the task. More details below. Don't miss it!

Saturday, Dec. 13 and Sunday, Dec. 14. At your convenience. Birding hikes in Ames area as rehearsal for Christmas Bird Census the following week. Call Jim Rod at 232-4869 or Ben Bereskin at 232-1198.

Tuesday, Dec. 16, 8:15 p.m. Room 120, Kildee Hall, ISU. Ames Audubon Executive Board meeting. Business will include 1970 Wildlife Film contract, financial affairs, and upcoming programs. Should last only 1 hour. Should be last Board meeting until February. Open to all Audubon members.

Sunday, Dec. 21. Our 2nd annual Christmas Bird Census in Ames area, in cooperation with National Audubon Soc. Open to all interested persons. You can participate all or part of the day. See elsewhere for more details. on this important event.

Wednesday, January 14, 1970, 7:30 p.m. in Ames Public Library Auditorium, 6th and Douglas Sts. Short business meeting, then a color-slide program by Normand and Harriet Hamilton on their out-of-doors adventures. Refreshments. A major purpose of this meeting will be to get acquainted with each other, especially our new members. Please save this date and plan to attend. More details next newsletter.

Thursday, January 29, Kildee Auditorium, ISU. Our annual Rachel Carson Memorial Lecture, featuring Dr. J. A. Klun, of the Iowa State Entomology Dept. and the USDA. He will discuss his extensive research work on new approaches to insect control, primarily on the corn borer. Corn is Iowa's number 1 farm crop. Thus, insect control is very important from both an economic and ecological standpoint. This promises to be a most interesting and significant program you won't want to miss.

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WHAT FUTURE FOR THE EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK?

The above is the title of a public-information program to be presented at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 11, in Kildee Auditorium on the ISU campus. It will feature a very fine motion picture, in color, and slides on the park area, first-hand reports and comments on current

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EVERGLADES PARK PROGRAM (cont'd from page 1)

park problems, and audience participation. An Honest attempt will be made to present a factual discussion of all sides of the issues now facing the American people on the future of the park. Dave Trauger, popular Instructor in Wildlife Biology at ISU, will serve as moderator. Dr. Jean Wooten, a native Floridian, now with the ISU Botany Dept., will present her views on the situation. Jim Rod and Steve Hanselmann, both of whom have visited the park, will present some slides and reports. Also, participating will be Mrs. W. J. Miller, Normand Hamilton and Ben Bereskin. This promises to be a highly informative, interesting and lively program you won't want to miss. We advise that you come early for a good seat. Bring your friends, too. We need some volunteers to serve as hosts at a couple Audubon information tables and to pass out programs. Contact Ben Bereskin if you wish to help in this major effort. Sponsored by your Ames Audubon Society in cooperation with the ISU Ecology Group.

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1969 AUDUBON CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUS

On Sunday, December 21, our 2nd annual bird census will be conducted in the Ames area. This event, sponsored nationwide by the National Audubon Society, is the world's most extensive survey of wildlife. A 15-mile diameter area is intensively covered with all birds sighted, recorded. Center of the circle is the junction of US 30 and Interstate 35 just east of Ames. Major wooded areas and open country will be checked. Only 30 species were observed in last year's count, our first. Agreeing to serve as co-chairmen are Steve Hanselmann and Jim Rod, two of the best birders around. They are hopeful of cooperation by many other local birders and the weather, for a good count. A preliminary meeting of all interested persons will be held in Jim Rod's home at 1508 Kellogg, Ames, at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 9. This event is being sponsored by the Ames Audubon Society and is open to all members. Those interested are urged to attend the preliminary meeting, and also to participate in the event on Dec. 21. The survey will start at dawn and continue all day. Persons can participate part or all day. Sightings at backyard feeders, etc., also can be included. Call Jim at 232-4859 if interested. As a practice session, individuals are urged to go out on the weekend of Dec. 13-14. Call Jim or Ben Bereskin at 232-1198 if you wish company on your outings. This project is another in our local program to get citizens involved in observing and enjoying wildlife and our natural environment. This is your chance to get out for a good cause and to enjoy the fellowship of others.

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BIRD BANDING with Jim Rod

On Friday, Nov. 14, I travelled to Davenport with John Faaborg of Jefferson for the annual meeting of the Inland Bird Banding Assoc. Host was Pete Peterson, Editor of "Iowa Bird Life". Pete and John are two of Iowa's top bird banders, licensed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Trap nests were checked before dawn on Saturday. Later, one sparrow hawk became entangled in the net, but freed himself before we were able to reach him. Two long-eared owls were flushed but both evaded the traps. On Sunday morning, we managed to trap a beautiful male sparrow hawk and a red-tailed hawk. They were photographed, banded and released. We spent the rest of Sunday examining bird skins for sexing and identification, under the expert supervision of Chandler Robbins, of the Fish and Wildlife Service and sr. author of the fieldbook, "Birds of North America." It was an experience I won't forget. Signed, Jim Rod.

REPORTS ON RECENT ACTIVITIES

On November 5 the Audubon Wildlife Films series was launched in Ames, sponsored by your Audubon Society, in cooperation with the ISU Botany Club. A modest crowd of about 225 paid admissions was on hand to hear Mr. Kent Durden, talented and personable young California nature photographer, narrate his beautiful film on "Death Valley-Land of Contrast". The scene was Great Hall of ISU Memorial Union and the sound and pictures both came thru to near perfection, thanks to Kent's own hi-fi speaker and theatre-type projector. Everyone seemed to be thoroughly pleased with the 90-min. program. Altho not a complete success, financially, it provided a big lift to those of us who had faith in the merit of the project and worked so hard to put it over. We feel we made a lot of new friends who will be back next time, with others. Three of the most enthusiastic boosters were Drs. Geo. Knaphus and Lois Tiffany, Botany club advisors, and Dave Schimpf, Club Pres. They were convinced of the superb quality of the programs and their overall value to the community. They are ready to go to work on the Feb. 20 program. We wish to thank the 10 or so Botany Club members for their help. They certainly were an attractive group of ushers. We also want to thank Audubon members Mrs. C. E. Sellers, Ruth Bereskin, Jim Rod, Doug Rod, and Normand Hamilton for their help in making the effort a success. Our goal is to double attendance at our next program, Feb. 20, in Kildee Aud. We do need much more help if we are to achieve this. Contact Ben Bereskin if you wish to pitch in. Mrs. Frances Carter is our first new volunteer.

On Nov. 11, Ames Audubon held a full-membership meeting. The major accomplishments were votes to incorporate our Society and to sponsor the Audubon Wildlife Films next year. A good turnout then sat back and had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Ed Brigham, North Midwest National Audubon Representative, and hearing his very fine color-slide program on "Conservation Is Choices". We certainly appreciate Ed's visit to Ames as part of the wide range of services offered by the National office to member groups thruout the U.S. Ed is doing a great job in promoting conservation activities in his territory. He visited with people in the Wildlife Section at ISU and contacted the State Conservation Comm. and Otto Knauth of the D. M. Reg. in Des moines. We predict some major conservation news in the months to come because of his efforts. The Audubon movement is on the march: new fieldmen and other staff are being employed. Trained naturalists are being sought for many openings. Contact the Newsletter office for further details.

On Nov. 17, Ames Audubon Society was officially incorporated as a non-profit corporation with the office of the Iowa Secretary of State. The document also was recorded at the Story County Courthouse. This is surely something all Audubon members can be proud of. It should help establish our club on a firm foundation for future growth and service to the cause of conservation in this area. Our task now is to gain full tax-exempt status as an educational organization with both the Federal and State people. This will take considerably more work but we are confident that in the near future we'll be able to report the good news.

National Audubon has a handsome new 1970 Calendar for sale. A sample will be on hand at the Everglades program on Dec. 11, along with order blanks, for those interested...All members who have club copies of the National Audubon magazine are urged to bring them to the Everglades program (Dec. 11) so that they may be loaned to other members. Thanks.

NEW MEMBERS SINCE OUR LAST ISSUE

We are very pleased to welcome the following to our group:
Dr. Stephen, Mrs. Loretta, and son, Brian, Maloy, of Ames. Dr. Maloy is a research veterinarian with the National Animal Disease Laboratory. Both he and his wife are enthusiastic birders and long-time conservationists. Mr. E. L. and Mrs. Doris Severson of Huxley. Mr. Severson works with Bourns Lab. in Ames. Both are long-time birders and conservation boosters who like to explore the many great natural wonders and wilderness areas of the country. They were in the Everglades this past summer. Mr. Neil and Mrs. Frances Carter of Ames. Mrs. Carter sent us the following note: "We've already joined National Audubon and are looking forward to receiving our own copies of their great magazine. Neil is working on his PhD in Fisheries Biology. Both of us are avid conservationists and we want to do our part in halting the environmental deterioration of our planet." We might add that Frances has her M.S. in Wildlife Biology and is now an instructor in Zoology. We predict active roles for Neil and Frances in Ames Audubon in the months ahead. All three of the above couples will give our group a real boost with their enthusiasm and efforts. We pledge to continue to do our best to merit their support. If each member will make an extra effort this month, we can boost our adult membership to 50 by Jan. 1, 1970. How about you?

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HOW TO REDUCE AIR POLLUTION FROM YOUR CAR

(Submitted by Norm Hamilton)

You can do your part to reduce damage from air pollution to your garden, wildlife, yourself and to others simply by keeping your car engine properly tuned. One study showed that a properly tuned engine burns most of the hydrocarbons in its fuel and turns them into less harmful carbon dioxide and water vapor. Only a small % of the potential pollutants in gasoline escape complete combustion in a properly tuned engine. A car with one bad spark plug can emit 25 times more hydrocarbons than a tuned engine at ordinary highway speeds. Another study found that cars that ran on leaded gasoline for 24,000 miles at moderate speeds showed a 51% increase in hydrocarbon emission levels. Cars that ran on unleaded fuel showed only a 5% gain under the same conditions. Lead itself is becoming a serious pollutant.

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A NOTE TO ALL NCN-MEMBERS OF AMES AUDUBON:

We would be very happy to continue sending our newsletters to you, under no obligation, whatsoever. All we ask is that you send us the following form with your name and address filled in. If you have already sent in such a form, ignore this reminder. Thank you.

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Yes, I would like to continue receiving the Ames Audubon Newsletter in the future with the full understanding there will be no obligation, whatsoever, to me or to my family.

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