

# Big Bluestem Flyer

May, 1995

Vol. 30, No. 8

## Monthly Meeting

**"Birdwatchers as Prey- Is Birdwatching a Hazardous Habit?" by Ken Holscher**

**Thursday, May 18, 7:30 pm, Room 2532, Veterinary Medicine Building, Iowa State University**

Ken Holscher will provide us with and update on Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, and other perils in the outdoors. Ken is an Associate Professor of Entomology at I. S. U. As Extension Entomologist he deals with the pests of livestock and humans.

## Field Trips

**Sunday, May 7, 2 PM, Woodland Wildflower Walk, Robison Acres County Park.** Meet in the parking area for the park. (Directions: From Ames take Hwy. 30 east to S 14 (at Nevada), go south on S 14 for 5 and 1/4 miles to a gravel road, turn east on the gravel and go 1 and 1/4 mile to Robison Acres Park.) This hike sponsored by the Story County Conservation Board.

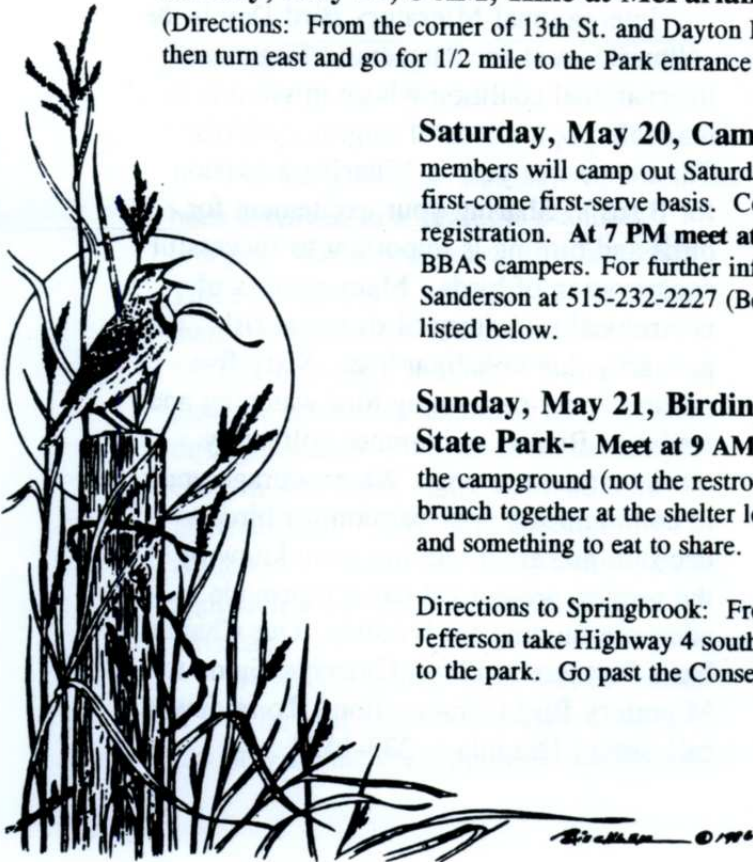
**Sunday, May 14, 8 AM, Hike at McFarland Park-** Meet at the Parking lot for McFarland Park. (Directions: From the corner of 13th St. and Dayton Rd. in Ames go North on Dayton Rd. (R 63) for 4 Miles, then turn east and go for 1/2 mile to the Park entrance on the north side of the road.)

**Saturday, May 20, Camping at Springbrook State Park-** Big Bluestem members will camp out Saturday night at the 200 site campground. Campsites are on a first-come first-serve basis. Cost is \$6, plus \$3 for electrical hookup, self-serve registration. **At 7 PM meet at the campground** and discuss possible activities with other BBAS campers. For further information or if uncertain about the weather, call Don Sanderson at 515-232-2227 (Before Noon on May 20). Directions to Springbrook are listed below.

### **Sunday, May 21, Birding Hike and Brunch- Springbrook**

**State Park-** Meet at 9 AM for the Hike at the restrooms located at the back part of the campground (not the restrooms near the entrance). After our Hike we will share brunch together at the shelter located up the hill from the campground. Bring your drink and something to eat to share.

Directions to Springbrook: From Ames take Highway 30 west to Jefferson, IA. At Jefferson take Highway 4 south for about 18 miles to F 25. Take F 25 west about 5 miles to the park. Go past the Conservation Center entrance to the main entrance to the park.



**John Flicker named President of  
National Audubon Society**

On April 14, the Executive Committee unanimously elected John Flicker to succeed Peter Berle as the next President and C.E.O. of the National Audubon Society. John Flicker is currently Florida State Director of The Nature Conservancy (TNC). He was born in Minnesota, where he was raised on a farm. Flicker served as TNC's Great Plains Director, where he initiated new State programs in Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota. He oversaw the acquisition of 65,000 acres of private lands which became Conservancy preserves along the Missouri, Niobrara and Platte Rivers.

Flicker served as Chief Legal Counsel for The Nature Conservancy and later became Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer supervising 1000 employees and helping to manage a budget of \$75 million. As Florida State Director Flicker supervised over \$1.9 billion of new appropriations for land acquisition from Florida's Preservation 2000 and County Bond Campaigns. John Flicker will begin as Audubon President on July 1, 1995.

**Wildlife Diversity Funding Coalition to  
Meet May 15**

The fourth meeting of the Central Region will be held at the Des Moines Botanical Center, Oak Room, 909 E. River Dr., Des Moines, Monday, May 15 at 7 PM. All wildlife enthusiasts are invited to learn about the grassroots efforts of the Central Iowa Wildlife Diversity Funding Coalition. Also learn how the Funding Initiative will benefit the retailers and manufacturers of outdoor equipment and the natural resources of Iowa.

**Society Needs Funds for Audubon  
Adventures**

Our Society sponsors the "Audubon Adventures" learning series in 12 area fourth through sixth grade classrooms. Every other month a selected classroom receives thirty two student newspapers and a teacher's guide on an environmental or natural history topic. It costs our Chapter \$35 per classroom for the series. We need your help to fund this program which is well received by teachers and environmental educators. Please consider a donation of any amount to "Audubon Adventures". Make checks payable to: Big Bluestem Audubon Society, and send to: Barb Bettis, 115 Peach Ln., Ames, IA 50010. Please indicate that your donation is for "Audubon Adventures".

**International Migratory Bird Day is May  
13**

International Migratory Bird Day is the hallmark event for Partners in Flight, an international coalition whose mission is to maintain populations of migratory birds. The theme this year is "Sharing a passion for Birds". Sharing your excitement for birds and birding is important to successful conservation of birds. Many species of neotropical migratory birds are at risk primarily due to habitat loss. Sixty five million Americans enjoy bird watching and feeding. Birders outnumber golfers by more than two to one. We encourage you to communicate your passion for birds to decision makers by letting them know of the need to protect habitat and provide adequate funding for wildlife. Our Chapter has a Partners in Flight Citizen's Guide to Migratory Bird Conservation. To review it call Sherry Dragula at 233-1532.

### Annual Meeting to be held May 18

The May 18 monthly meeting is also the annual meeting of Big Bluestem Audubon Society. The election of Officers and Board members will be conducted and a budget for the coming year will be approved. The proposed budget is listed elsewhere on this page. The Nominating Committee's Report follows.

### Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee, made up of members Don Sanderson, Lloyd Crim, and Jeanne Edwards, submits the following slate for consideration at the May 18 election of the Big Bluestem Audubon Society.

For President: Mark Widrlechner, for Vice-President: Stan Cyran, for Secretary: Joyce Bahrenfus, for Treasurer: Barb Bettis. For Board Members: Kay Niyo, Rebecca Shivvers, and David Guy.

### Strategic Planning for National Audubon Society

For the past four months, Audubon has been involved in a strategic planning process. Some results are now available. Three themes have emerged. First is the theme of Audubon being about birds, wildlife and their habitats. Second is that the best manner of realizing our vision is through Audubon's grassroots capacity at every level- local, state, national and international. Third is to advance Audubon's mission by using a multi-prong approach focused on education and advocacy.

By May 5 a draft plan will be written. It will be sent to each Audubon Chapter. On May 22 the draft plan will be discussed

by a Steering Committee. On June 15 the National Board of Directors will consider a final plan. If you would like to review strategic planning materials, call Mark Widrlechner at 233-1532. Questions and comments can also be directed to the Strategic Planning Call-in-Leave Message #. 800-867-3262.

### Proposed Budget 1995-96

	Proposed	
	95-96	94-95
<b>INCOME</b>		
National Rebate	2000	2121
Donations	25	27
Raffle	25	0
Audubon Adventures	100	88
Donations for Trees & Shrubs	0	131
T-Shirts	0	380
Bird Seed	50	0
Book: Birds of Story Co.	300	0
Armchair Activist	0	36
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2500</b>	<b>2783</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Newsletter	1000	1350
Audubon Adventures	420	420
Programs	100	140
Armchair Activist	0	65
Insurance	300	297
T-Shirts	0	292
Iowa Audubon Council	100	100
Midwest Raptor Found.	0	25
Story Co. Cons. Bd.	0	100
Iowa Nature Conservancy	0	35
Teacher's Activity Booklet	40	0
Book-Birds of Story Co.	400	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2360</b>	<b>2824</b>

### Walnut Creek Annual Fest- June 10

The Fourth Annual "Sow Your Wild Oats Day" is June 10th at the Walnut Creek National Wildlife Refuge near Prairie City, Iowa. Music, booths, and prairie seeding are part of this celebration. Call the Refuge at 515-994-2415 for further info.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

I'd like to join as a new member of the National Audubon Society and of the Big Bluestem Audubon Society, Chapter H-57. Please send me *Audubon* magazine, the *Big Bluestem Flyer* and my membership card. Introductory membership is \$20.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to: National Audubon Society and include Chapter Code H-57 on the check. Send to: Mark Widrlechner, Membership Chair, 2121 Burnett Ave. Ames, Iowa 50010

**Big Bluestem Audubon Society- Board Members**

**OFFICERS:**

President: Mark Widrlechner, 233-1532  
Vice-President: Jon Bahrenfus, 432-3396  
Secretary: Joyce Bahrenfus, 432-3396  
Treasurer: Barb Bettis, 232-4863

**Additional BOARD MEMBERS:**

Kay Niyo, 233-8803  
Rebecca Shivvers, 292-0691  
Lloyd Crim, 432-5026  
Don Sanderson, 232-2227  
Stan Cyran, 292-4876

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Newsletter Editor: Sherry Dragula, 233-1532

**BIG BLUESTEM AUDUBON SOCIETY  
2121 BURNETT AVE.  
AMES, IA 50010**

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