

# Membership Application

- New member of the National Audubon Society. \$20.00. Included in the introductory membership fee:
- subscription to *Audubon* magazine
  - subscription to the *Big Bluestem Audubon Flyer*
  - participation in Big Bluestem Audubon Society activities.
- Please make your check payable to:  
National Audubon Society (include "Chapter Code H-57"  
Big Bluestem Audubon Society.)
- Please make your check payable to:  
Big Bluestem Audubon Society.
- you will not have voting privileges
  - you cannot be an officer or committee chair.
- This fee also allows you to participate in Big Bluestem Audubon Society activities. However, the following restrictions apply:
- you will not be a member of the National Audubon Society
  - you will not have voting privileges

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** Send your check and membership application form to BBA's Membership Chair, P.O. Box 543, Ames, IA 50010-0543. Please do not use this form for renewals of your National Audubon Society membership.

## Website

Visit our website at:  
<http://bigbluestemaudubon.org>.  
You can browse an electronic version of our newsletter, take a look at the calendar of our programs and field trips, or find out more about Big Bluestem Audubon Society activities.

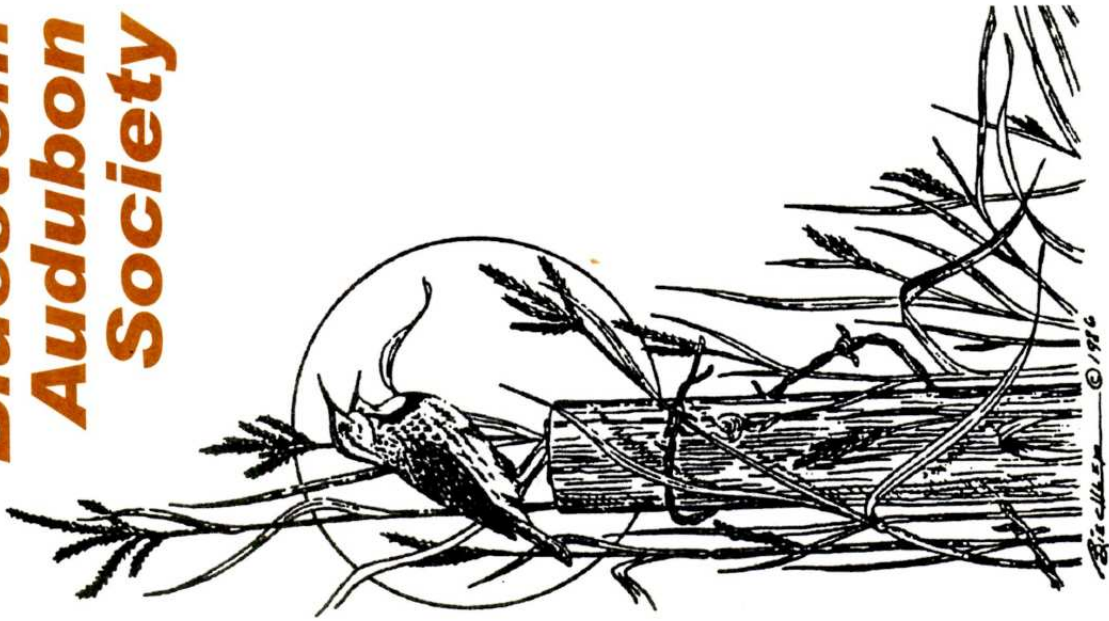
## Newsletter

The *Big Bluestem Flyer*, published at the end of August, October, December, February, and April, contains regular features and information about upcoming events. National Audubon members automatically receive the newsletter by mail. Chapter newsletter subscriptions for non-members are available for \$10.00 per year.

## Birdathon

Our annual all-day birdwatching event is held in the spring of each year. Teams compete to locate as many bird species as they can, and raise pledges to fund bird education and conservation projects. Check our website for additional information.

# Big Bluestem Audubon Society



Revised 8/07

A central Iowa chapter of  
the National Audubon Society

## Big Bluestem Chapter

Our mission is to enjoy the observation and study of birds and natural ecosystems, contribute to their preservation and restoration, engage in educational activities to benefit humanity and gain a broader understanding and deeper appreciation of the world in which we live. Our chapter area includes Story, Boone, Hamilton, and Greene counties and nearby areas.

## National Audubon Society

The mission of the National Audubon Society is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds and other wildlife for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity. Founded in 1905, the National Audubon Society has 500 chapters in the Americas and 100 sanctuaries and nature centers nationwide.

## Iowa Audubon

An independent organization that coordinates and communicates with local Audubon chapters across the state, Iowa Audubon works to improve conservation awareness and the knowledge of birds and their habitats. At the core of this mission is the Important Bird Areas (IBA) program, which identifies, monitors, and conserves Iowa's most essential bird habitats. To learn about the IBA program and more, visit Iowa Audubon's official website at: <http://www.iowaaudubon.org>.

## Meetings

Chapter meetings are held monthly, September through May, on the third Thursday of the month (except December) at 7:30 p.m. in the Extension & 4-H Building on the Iowa State University campus. A short business meeting precedes a talk about birds or some aspect of the natural world. Join us each month for slide presentations about such natural areas as Antarctica, Brazil, Costa Rica, Isle Royale, and the Platte River. Speakers and program topics are listed in our newsletter as well as on our website.

## Field Trips

Our field trips take us to marshes, lakes, woodlands, and parks around central Iowa. Occasionally we venture farther afield to such areas as Northeast Iowa, Desoto Bend National Wildlife Refuge, and Nebraska's Platte River. Participants usually carpool from a designated meeting place. Birds at all levels, from beginner to advanced, are welcome. To learn more about our trips, see our newsletter or visit our website.

## Conservation

At meetings, members learn about current local and national conservation issues. Updates about legislative initiatives provide members opportunities to make a difference on important issues by contacting their state and national representatives, if they desire.

## Christmas Bird Counts

Each winter the Big Bluestem Audubon Society supports Christmas Bird Counts in the Ames, Boone, and Saylorville Lake areas. The counts census the birds in a defined area on an assigned day and are part of the National Audubon Society's annual Christmas Bird Count, held throughout North America for over a century. Collectively, the counts provide a valuable snapshot of winter bird populations.

## Audubon Adventures

The Big Bluestem chapter sponsors gradeschool classrooms in our membership area, providing them with the award-winning Audubon Adventures learning series. The series, for children in fourth through sixth grades, contains fun and educational information on birds, wildlife, and ecology.