

# Big Bluestem Flyer

Volume 22 No. 5

January 1988

## Monthly Meeting

JANUARY

### **The Changing Nature of Iowa's Birds**

**Dr. James Dinsmore**, ISU Professor of Animal Ecology  
Tuesday, 19th, Room 181, College of Design, ISU Campus  
*Refreshments: Steve Dinsmore & Paul Martsching*

### **CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS**

The Ames and Boone Christmas bird count results will be presented in the February newsletter. Preliminary tallies had just under 50 species in Ames and over 50 species in Boone. Thanks to the many participants and to the coordinators, Steve Dinsmore and Mark Widrlechner.

**BIG BLUESTEM AUDUBON SOCIETY OFFICERS**  
**President:** David C. Edwards, 292-3790, Membership Chair  
**Vice President:** Michael Meetz, 382-2534, Program Chair  
**Secretary:** Barbara Bettis, 232-4863  
**Treasurer:** Mark Widrlechner, 292-4014

**Executive Board:** Sherry Dragula, 292-4014,  
Conservation Chair  
Barbara Heikens, 296-2999,  
Education Chair  
Marianna Loy, 292-0769  
Andy Fix, 296-7554  
Kay Niyo, 292-5130



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## Audubon Board Election

December 4, 1987, was an historic day for the National Audubon Society. By an overwhelming margin—and in unprecedented numbers—Auduboners approved a slate of nominees for our Board of Directors which included nine members representing Audubon's nine traditional regions.

A total of 106,529 Audubon members cast proxy ballots in favor of the board's official list of candidates. An alternate slate of candidates drew 5,113 proxy ballots. These results were certified at our Annual Meeting of Members, held in New York on the morning of December 4th.

After the Annual Meeting, the new board members plunged into an intense round of board committee sessions that same day, followed by a full board meeting on December 5th.

The nine chapter-nominated board members are:

Leigh J. Altadonna, Wyncote, Pa., Mid-Atlantic Region

Wilma Anderson, Dallas, Texas, Southwest Region

Janice E. Burch, Lincoln, Neb., West Central Region

B. Bartram Cadbury, Cushing, Maine, Northeast Region

Charles G. Evans, Anchorage, Alaska, Alaska Region

Robert Y. Grant, Kenmore, Wash., Western Region

Janet C. Green, Duluth, Minn., Great Lakes Region

Harriet M. Marble, Chester, Mont., Rocky Mountain Region

Leah G. Schad, West Palm Beach, Fla., Southeast Region

This election holds major significance for National Audubon for several reasons.

- It was the first time in Audubon history that our 508 chapters directly nominated candidates for the Board of Directors, the governing body of our organization.

- The total number of members participating in the 1987 election through proxy ballots totalled more than 111,000, by far an all-time high for Audubon—and, we believe, a demonstration of strong interest in the future of National Audubon. Throughout Audubon history, proxy balloting had never drawn more than 19,700 votes in any single year.

- The more than 106,000 members who cast their proxy ballots for the chapter-selected members and other board candidates is a clear vote of confidence for this new Board of Directors election process, under which 25 percent of the seats on the board—nine out of 36—will always be filled by men and women who have been directly nominated by our chapters.

This past year was a tumultuous one for National Audubon. We faced severe financial pressures to bring our budget into balance for the fiscal year that began July 1, 1987. This forced us to make organization-wide cutbacks that included restructuring our regional operations—a painful process in which we lost some valued longtime staff.

The regional office cutbacks, in particular, prompted understandable anger on the part of some grassroots members. But a constructive dialogue ensued during the summer, resulting in the chapter election process, which will ensure that concerned Auduboners have greater and more direct input into board decision-making.

The events of December 4th have ended 1987 on a strong, positive note for the National Audubon Society, and we look forward with confidence to 1988.

**By Peter A.A. Berle  
President, National Audubon Society**



## SPRING 1988 EVENTS

### JANUARY

Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, 19th, 181 Design Center, ISU, 7:30 PM  
**"The changing nature of Iowa's Birds"**  
James Dinsmore, ISU Professor of Animal Ecology

### FEBRUARY

Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, 16th, 181 Design Center, ISU, 7:30 PM  
**"Central Iowa's Geology or a Peek at Des Moines' Lobe"**  
Jean C. Prior, State Geologist

Field Trip, Saturday, 20th  
Ledges and Big Creek State Parks  
**Owls**  
Carpool from Design Center parking lot: 7:30 AM  
or meet at the Ledges' south (Lost Lake) nature trail

### MARCH

Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, 8th, 181 Design Center, ISU, 7:30 PM  
**"Eagles of Alaska"**  
Bob Livermore, Sioux City

\*Field Trip, Saturday, 19th  
Bay's Branch and/or Saylorville Reservoir  
**Waterfowl**  
Carpool from Design Center parking lot: 7:30 AM

\*Field Trip, Thursday-Saturday, 24-26  
**Sandhill Cranes & Audubon River Conference**, North Platte, NE  
Transportation and Lodging to be arranged

### APRIL

Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, 19th, 181 Design Center, ISU, 7:30 PM  
**"Birds Under Feather or What Holds Them Together"**  
Andy Fix, ISU Veterinary Pathologist

Field Trip, Friday Evening, 22nd, 6:45 PM  
Stage Coach Road at Izaak Walton Park Entrance  
**Woodcock Display**

Field Trip, Saturday, 30th, Hendrickson's Marsh and SE Story County  
**Waterfowl and general birding**  
Carpool from Design Center parking lot: 7:45 AM

### MAY

Field Trip, Saturday, 7th  
McFarland Park  
**Birds and Wildflowers**  
Meet at the park at 8:30 AM

Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, 10th, 181 Design Center, ISU, 7:30 PM  
**"All about Iowa Snakes"**  
Paul Hollander, herpetologist

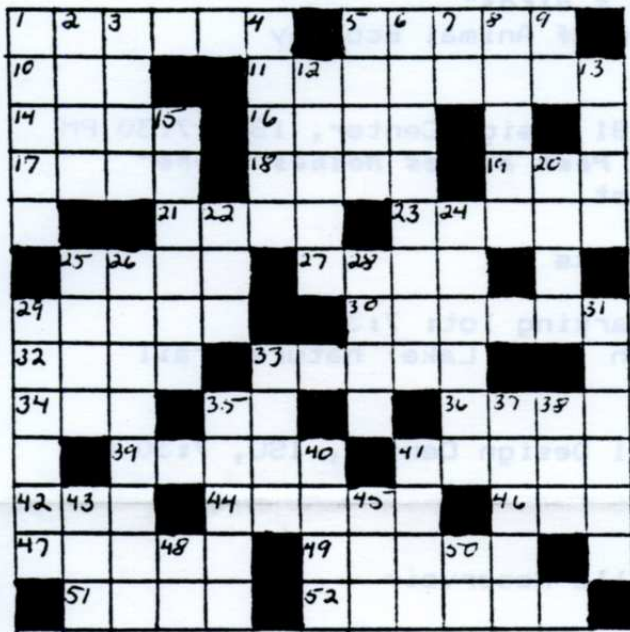
Field Trip, Saturday, 14th  
Brookside Park  
**Birds and Wildflowers**  
Meet at the Audubon Trail in the north parking lot, 8:00 AM

### JUNE

\*First Annual Birder's Breakfast, Saturday, 11th  
Ledges State Park, Birding at 7 AM, Breakfast at 9 AM Park

\*Changes from earlier announcement (info: 292-3790)

# BIRD THEME



### ACROSS

- |                            |                                |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Large sandpiper         | 30. Large, spotted swamp wader |
| 5. High seas               | 32. Small whirlpool            |
| 10. Indebted               | 33. Fix a racket               |
| 11. Santa's power          | 34. Object or thing            |
| 14. Bread spread           | 35. Sun god                    |
| 16. ___ duckling           | 36. "Oh Norman, the ___s"      |
| 17. Fastest kerosene hawks | 39. Anas' sound                |
| 18. Ames' thousands        | 41. Stitched                   |
| 19. Ex. Terr. Intell.      | 42. Walking bird               |
| 21. Bag                    | 44. Snake spit                 |
| 23. Tall wader             | 46. Chemical suffix            |
| 25. Rail                   | 47. Ocean wind                 |
| 27. Before now             | 49. Jaeger habitat             |
| 29. Boneless meat          | 51. Favorite pond decoration   |
|                            | 52. Wrecker's fee.             |

### DOWN

1. Desoto Bend sight
2. Fly-by-nights
3. Bug-off
4. Train wheels
5. Grain sorghum
6. Where to see Passer domesticus
7. Where the Wizard lives
8. When to see Alcidae in Ames
9. Compass point
12. Tall wader
13. 5.6 is normal for it
15. Has black wrist patches
20. Soybean curds
22. Cereal grass
24. Give power
25. Lateral surface
26. Needle-tail sea duck
28. Bird of prey
29. Red-eyed polecat
31. \_\_\_ ling
33. Bullock's Oriole, e.g.
35. "Nevermore"
37. Due
38. Brit. dict.
40. Red wader
41. European merganser
43. married w.
45. Org. Calif. Ornith.
50. Tippler's reversion



### DECEMBER'S BIRD ANAGRAMS

- SORA
- VEERY
- MERLIN
- DUNLIN
- OSPREY
- MALLARD
- REDHEAD
- ROCK DOVE
- WHILBREL
- ROSS GOOSE
- DICKCISSEL\*
- ACEEPRCCCU\* = ACEELPRSSSU
- VARIED THRUSH
- LITTLE BLUE HERON
- RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD
- WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH

\* Puzzle maker's errors.  
'tis a puzzle how they happened!  
Try these for replacements.

AAEEGMMNRRSTU  
AACGIKNOPRRT

**Big Bluestem Audubon Society**  
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Ames, Iowa 500 10

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