

Ames Audubon Society

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER 1973

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SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

Bring a friend or neighbor

WHAT: Slide presentation on BIRDS OF THE SOUTHWEST
WHO: Dr. and Mrs. Barton Morgan, Ames Audubon
Conservationist of the Year, 1970
WHEN: Tuesday, September 11, 1973. 7:30 p.m.
WHERE: South Wing Auditorium, MacKay Hall (west side
of building)

There is a treat in store for you at the first meeting of the fall season. Dr. and Mrs. Barton Morgan will share with us some of the highlights of 15 years of nature photography. The Morgans have a complete feeding and watering program for birds at their winter home in Arizona. They also maintain feeders and watering facilities from the valley floor to a 7000 foot mountain elevation. Think of the various habitats that covers!

TAKE A LATE SUMMER PRAIRIE TOUR

WHEN: Monday, September 3 and Sunday, September 9. 6:30 p.m. both days.
WHERE: Ames High School Prairie. Assemble in northwest parking lot of high school.
LEADER: Richard Trump
SPONSORS: Nature Conservancy, Ames Conservation Council, Ames Park Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

WHO: All Ames Audubon officers. Members are welcome.
WHEN: Thursday, September 6, 1973. 8:00 p.m.
WHERE: Home of the Bob Jeffersons, 325 Pearson
AGENDA: Board member reports, Audubon trail, money situation, status of Ledges State Park

REMINDER TO I.O.U. MEMBERS

The fall meeting of the Iowa Ornithologists Union will be held in Burlington, Iowa the weekend of September 22 and 23, 1973. Interesting field trips and program are planned. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

NORTH CENTRAL AUDUBON COUNCIL FALL WORKSHOP
October 6, 7, and 8, 1973
Horicon Marsh, Wisconsin

Workshop features "Taking a Gander at Horicon Marsh." Speakers from state and federal agencies will give presentations to prepare participants for field trips into Horicon Marsh. Migrations of Canada geese will be a typical sight. Interested persons should contact Lotus Miller for further information (292-2308).

LEDGES STATE PARK

A letter was sent to Colonel Walter H. Johnson, District Engineer, Rock Island District Corps of Engineers, on behalf of the Ames Audubon Society to protest environmental changes anticipated in Ledges State Park by virtue of the Saylorville Reservoir. The letter was written by Lotus Miller, President of Ames Audubon Society. Several paragraphs from the letter are quoted below:

"Our members include many amateur naturalists, as are the nearly half million annual visitors to the Ledges. But whether a visitor enjoys wild living things or not, his enjoyment of the cool lower valley, the creek, and the sandstone cliffs which give the park its name are likely to be much diminished by the siltation and shifting in zones of vegetation brought about by more extensive flooding.

The Executive Board of the Ames Audubon Society believes that, of the alternatives listed by the Corps, the channel change barrier dam is the least destructive to the features of the park we wish to see preserved. In addition, we think that the procedures of regulating the water level should be changed so that there would be fewer days of flooding above the 870 foot level. Discussion of the tentative plan of operation and possibilities of change should certainly be included in the final Environmental Impact Statement.

We trust that, whichever alternatives are finally chosen, they will be carefully planned and conscientiously implemented to protect the Ledges State Park for future generations of Iowans."
