

AMES AUDUBON

NEWSLETTER

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Ames, Iowa

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, Dec. 12, 7:30 pm., So. Wing Audit., Mackay Hall, ISU. Rachel Carson Memorial Lecture. Dr. Roger Landers, an illustrated lecture on "The Environmental Crisis".

Sunday, Dec. 22. Ames area wild bird count, as part of the Audubon Nationwide Christmas Bird Count. See col. 2 for more details.

Thursday, Jan. 9, 7:30 pm., Rm. 124, Kildee Hall, ISU. Bus. meeting for numerous important items.

Wednesday, Jan. 15, 7:30 pm. Mackay Aud. Public forum on possible dove hunting in Iowa. Sponsored by Ames Aud. Dr. Arnold G. Haugen, Leader of Ia. Coop. Wildlife Research Unit, ISU, will be Moderator for the panel of 4 speakers.

RACHEL CARSON MEMORIAL LECTURE

One of the highlights to date in the activities of Ames Audubon will occur on Thursday, Dec. 12, when we launch our yearly Rachel Carson Memorial Lecture, in honor of America's foremost spokeswoman for a sane approach to nature. She was vilified by a few biased persons but revered and honored by the rest of mankind. (See page 2.) As our keynote speaker, we feel fortunate in having one of the upcoming thinkers & leaders in new conservation ideas in the person of Dr. Roger Landers, ecologist with the ISU Botany Dept. He will talk on "The Environmental Crisis" and will use colored slides and a short film to illustrate his lecture. He will discuss man's impact on the natural environment, mainly in the form of pollution. He will also discuss the demands on the environment that an exploding population is creating and the decisions man must make in order to survive. Dr. Landers is a grad. of Texas A-

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT CNDEC. 22

Ames Audubon and the Ia. Ornithologist Union will cooperate in making a wild bird count in the Ames area on Sunday, Dec. 22. Co-chairmen will be Steve Hanselmann of Ames Audubon and John Faaborg of the Ornithologist group. Identification assistants will be David C. Alftine and Ken Hawley of Ames Audubon and Myron Swanson for the Ornithologists. Others who are interested and have had some experience in bird identification are welcome to help. Ph. 232-0539 or 232-7287. The results will be referred to the Nat. Aud. Society as part of its national program and also as a part of the All-Iowa Ornithologists Bird Survey. The area to be covered is a 15 mile diameter circle with its center 1 mile east of the intersection of I-35 and US 30, east of Ames. Participants will meet at 6 am, at the Ames Holiday Inn for appointment of observation teams. At noon they will meet again at the Inn to take on new half-day observers. At 5-5:30pm. all will meet again at the Inn to compare notes and complete the necessary bookwork.

& M. and the Univ. of California, majoring in Plant Ecology. He has been on the ISU staff since 1962. He has taught and has conducted and directed graduate research in his major field. He has been very active in local and state conservation work, mainly in connection with native prairie preserves. A question-and-answer period will follow the lecture. Aud. literature will then be available for the audience, with Audubon members serving as hosts and hostesses. Each member is asked to bring a name plate to the meeting to aid in meeting guests and answering any questions on our Audubon Society.

ALONG THE NATURALIST TRAIL

In 1958, two of Rachel Carson's friends told her of the death of many birds in their small wildlife sanctuary, following the spraying with DDT for mosquitos in the area. Miss Carson had long been concerned with this problem but she knew then she must write a new book. And this would not be just another book, but a crusade. After 4½ years of exhaustive research and writing, *Silent Spring* was published. It was immediately praised by many but denounced by others. It was on the best-seller list over 30 wks., sold over 500,000 copies in hardback and shook the fields of environmental science and conservation to their very foundations. We haven't recovered yet.

The book came as a shock to some of R. Carson's close friends who knew her as a quiet, serious, and friendly person who had won world acclaim as the gentle spokeswoman for nature. But in *Silent Spring*, she took off her gloves and openly denounced "the practitioners of chemical control who had arrogantly hurled a chemical barrage against the very fabric of life on earth."

Rachel Carson was born in Springdale, Pa., in 1907. Her mother taught her as a child the joys of the out-of-doors and of the lore of birds and other residents of streams and ponds. She earned her BA in 1929 from Pa. State College in writing & zoology and her MA in Zoology from John Hopkins U. She was then on the U. of Maryland zoology dept. staff for 4 years. In 1936 she joined the US Bureau of Fisheries as a biologist and editor. She became editor-in-chief for the Bureau in 1947. Her first full-length book was published in 1941 on sea life. Other books followed, all well received. She retired in 1951 to write and lecture on her favorite themes: the unity of all life on earth; certain pesticides were the sinister and little-recognized partners of radiation in chan-

THIS -N- THAT

About 135 persons turned out on Oct. 29 to honor Barton and Mrs. Morgan and enjoyed one of their truly fine slide programs-on "Birds and their Haunts." Featured was the showing of 2 slides simultaneously to allow comparisons of males and females, young and old, etc. One of their principle messages was that the study of nature produced peace of mind and a greater appreciation of the world we live in. We agree.

On Nov. 19 nine Ames Audubon members, including Ian Hoffman, baby son of the David Hoffmans, journeyed to Des Moines for the excellent program by Pete Peterson, Jr., on "Birding on the Mississippi," sponsored by Des Moines Audubon. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the visit.

Normand Hamilton, Ames Audubon v-president, has obtained some A-1 sorghum seed that he is giving away to be used as wild bird feed. He lives at 240 Hickory Drive. Give him a call at 292-3428 if interested.

Mrs. C. E. Sellers, Ames Audubon Librarian, recently purchased a subscription to the National Audubon magazine for the Ames Public Library. Ames residents can now check out this outstanding magazine.

We would advise you to come early to the Rachel Carson Lecture on Dec. 12. There could be a full house. Bring along a friend. You won't be sorry you did.

ing the very nature of life; and that we in this generation must come to terms with nature. Her favorite hobby was bird study. She was a member of the Ame. Ornithologists Union and a Dir. of the Wash. D.C. Audubon Society. She died of cancer in 1964, a brave and dedicated woman to whom we all owe a great debt of gratitude. We of Ames Audubon are determined to help keep her message alive by sponsoring the yearly Rachel Carson Memorial Lecture.