

## September Monthly Meeting

### "Raptors of Iowa" presented by Dean Roosa

**Thursday, September 14, 7:30 pm, Room 2532, Veterinary Medicine Building, Iowa State University**

Dean Roosa will join us for a look at the species of raptors found in Iowa including rare species. Since 1960 he has been studying raptors in Iowa with other researchers including Jon Stravers of Pella. Dean is a former State Ecologist of Iowa. He is author of *Wildflowers of the Tallgrass Prairie* with Sylvan Runkel and *The Vascular Plants of Iowa* with Lawrence Eilers. He is working on a book of Iowa's wetland plants.

## September Field Trip

### "Warbler Watch" at Ann Munn Woods, Ames

**Sunday, September 17, 8 am.** Meet at the sign for the entrance to Ann Munn Woods, located at the corner of Woodland St. and Hickory Dr. in Ames. Dave Edwards will lead us on a walk through the woods in search of migrating warblers.

## October Monthly Meeting

### "Birds, Butterflies and Biodiversity in Yellowstone" presented by Diane Debinski

**Thursday, October 12, 7:30 pm, Room 2532, Veterinary Medicine Building, Iowa State University**

Diane Debinski is an Assistant Professor of Animal Ecology at I.S.U. For the past decade she has been researching techniques to survey species diversity in the Glacier and Yellowstone National Park ecosystems. Her program will look at ways of predicting where to find rare species of birds, butterflies, and plants.

## October Field Trip

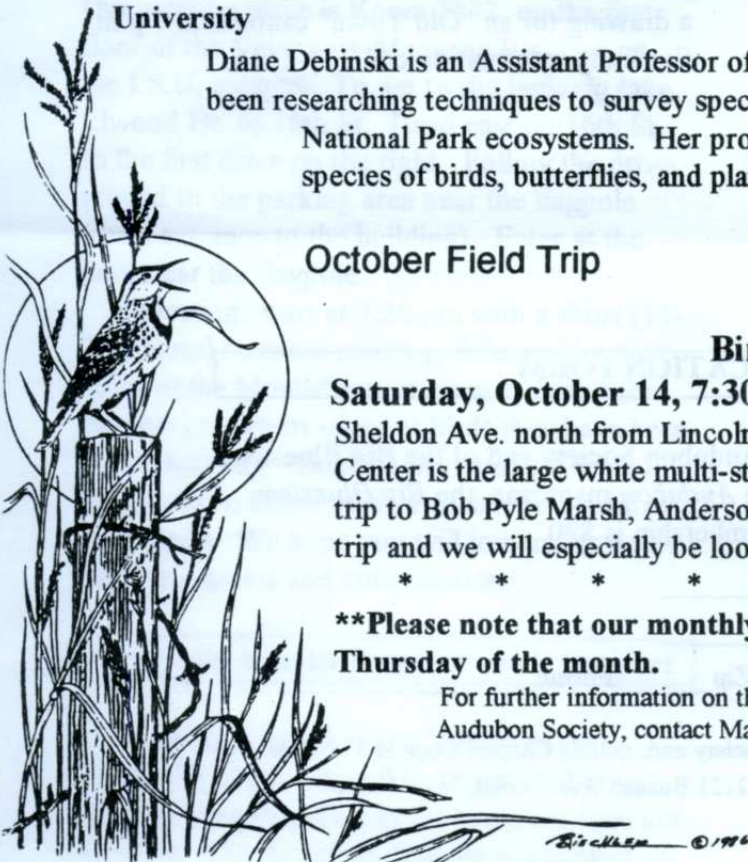
### Birding Local Marshes

**Saturday, October 14, 7:30 am.** Meet at the Design Center Parking lot (take Sheldon Ave. north from Lincolnway past Union Dr. and Oakland St. The Design Center is the large white multi-story building on your right). Hank Zaletel will lead this trip to Bob Pyle Marsh, Anderson Lake and/or other local marshes. This is a half day trip and we will especially be looking for shorebirds, ducks and sparrows.

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**\*\*Please note that our monthly meeting date has been changed to the second Thursday of the month.**

For further information on the Big Bluestem Audubon Society, a chapter of the National Audubon Society, contact Mark Widrechner, 515-233-1532



**Regional Conference will be Nov. 2-5, 1995**

A Conference for the West Central Region of the National Audubon Society, which includes our chapter as well as all those in Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, North and South Dakota, Oklahoma, and Arkansas, will be held November 2-5, 1995 at the Holiday Inn in Olathe, Kansas, just outside Kansas City. The Regional Office is looking for conference ideas. They can be sent to: West Central Regional Office, 200 Southwind Pl., Manhattan, Kansas 66502, Phone-913-537-4385.

**Mortensen Prairie Work Day Held**

On June 28, Big Bluestem members conducted a brush and tree cutting at the Mortensen Road Prairie landscape. Eight members cut then moved woody vegetation to allow the growth of prairie plants. Thanks go to: Jon and Joyce Bahrenfus, Lloyd Crim, Dave Brenner, Mark Widrlechner, Kay Niyo, Jeanne Edwards, Sherry Dragula and Anne Kimber.

**Field Trip Leaders Wanted**

Our Society is looking for Field Trip leaders. You do not have to be an expert in bird identification to lead a trip. All that is necessary is a willingness to lead a group to and around a natural area you know. Trips typically last a half-day and are usually held on a Saturday morning. Ideas for places to go to see birds are also welcome. Contact Mark Widrlechner, 233-1532.

**Canoe Races and BBQ September 4**

On Labor Day, Monday, September 4 the Story County Conservation Center will hold Canoe Races and a Barbeque at Hickory Grove Park. This is a fundraiser for the Hickory Grove Waterfront Improvement Project. Canoe races begin at 10 a.m. at the north boat ramp. Canoes are available, entrance fee is \$5 per two person team. The Barbeque begins at noon and a drawing for an "Old Town" canoe is at 1 p.m. For more information call 232-2516.

**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

### **Newsletter changes to Bi-monthly**

The *Big Bluestem Flyer* will now be issued bi-monthly instead of monthly. The Board and newsletter editor have decided to go to the bi-monthly format due to costs of the newsletter, as well as the effort to produce it on a monthly basis. We hope that our members will not be inconvenienced by this change.

Deadlines for upcoming issues are the 15th of October, December, February and April. Items for the newsletter should be sent to: Sherry Dragula, 2121 Burnett Ave, Ames, IA 50010.

Please post the newsletter in a prominent place or jot the dates from the front page in your calendar. The front page can be used as a poster. Feel free to make copies of it and post it at your workplace or places you visit. Help us spread the word about our activities and invite people you know to join us!

### **Monthly Meeting Date and Place**

The Big Bluestem Audubon Society will change its meeting date to the second Thursday of the month from September through May. Our meeting place is Room 2532, on the first floor of the Veterinary Medicine Building on the I.S.U. campus. To get to the building take Elwood Dr. to 16th St. Head east on 16th St. to the first drive on the right. Follow the drive around to the parking area near the flagpole (main entrance to the building). Enter at the door near the flagpole.

Meetings start at 7:30 pm with a short (15-20 minute) business meeting, followed by our "Bird of the Month" report, then a chance for members to report on what birds they have been seeing recently. Then we have our scheduled presentation, followed by a chance to socialize over treats. We hope you will join us for interesting programs and conversation.

### **Armchair Activist Program needs Support**

The Armchair Activist "Letter of the Month Club" project will be terminated in our Chapter if participation in the program does not increase. The Armchair Activist is a project of

### **Armchair Activist (cont.)**

the National Audubon Society produced in cooperation with Audubon Chapters nationwide. If you join, every month (except December and August) you will receive a mailing on a current environmental issue. About half the issues are national issues and half are state issues. Each mailing contains background information on the issue plus a sample letter and suggestions of where your letter should be sent. If you would like to join the Armchair Activist program send your name, address and phone number to Sherry Dragula, 2121 Burnett, Ames, IA 50010. Enclose a check for \$6 made out to Big Bluestem Audubon Society. We need ten paid subscriptions by the end of September, 1995 to continue the program. Your check will be returned if we do not get ten subscribers.

### **Tenth Year for Audubon Adventures**

This year marks the tenth year our Society has sponsored the "Audubon Adventures" learning program in selected fourth through sixth grade classrooms in Ames. Area educators are very pleased with the program and are eager to receive a new year of "Audubon Adventures". Every other month twelve selected classrooms in Ames and Story County receive thirty two student newspapers and a teacher's guide on a natural history topic. The four page newspaper presents information in a fun way. This year's topics are: spiders, endangered species, conifers, mammals, bird migration, soil invertebrates, and pelagic fishes.

It costs our Chapter \$35 per classroom. We need your help to fund this worthwhile program. Contributions of any amount will help. Please make your check payable to: Big Bluestem Audubon Society and send to Barb Bettis, Treasurer, Big Bluestem Audubon, 115 Peach Ln., Ames, IA 50010. Please indicate that your donation is for "Audubon Adventures". Thanks for helping educate young folks about the natural world.

**Future Events**

October 21	Iowa Audubon Council Meeting near Davenport
November 2-5	West Central Regional Audubon Conference, Olathe, Kansas
November 9	Meeting: Jerry Selby of the Nature Conservancy, Iowa Chapter
December 14	Holiday Meeting
December 16	Ames Christmas Bird Count
December 30,31 or Jan. 1	Boone County Christmas Bird Count
January 11	Meeting: Carl Kurtz
February 8 - Correct	Meeting: Stan Cyran and Kay Niyo on Birding Costa Rica
March 8 → <del>to 10</del>	Meeting: Speaker to be confirmed →
April 14 → <del>to 16</del>	Meeting: Speaker to be confirmed
May 10 → <del>to 12</del>	Meeting: Erwin Klaas on Restoration Ecology

*Colby Rebecca*

**Big Bluestem Audubon Society Board Members**

President: Mark Widrechner, 233-1532  
 Vice-President: Stan Cyran, 292-4876  
 Secretary: Joyce Bahrenfus, 432-3396  
 Treasurer: Barb Bettis, 232-4863  
 Kay Niyo, 233-8803

Rebecca Shivvers, 292-0691  
 Lloyd Crim, 432-5026  
 Don Sanderson, 232-2227  
 David Guy, 232-8825

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