

Monthly Meeting-

A Naturalist's Tour of Nebraska, by Ty Smedes, Nature Photographer
Thursday, September 15, 7:30 PM, Room 2532, Veterinary Medicine Building, I.S.U., Ames.

Ty Smedes is an accomplished nature photographer who has had his images published in more than a dozen magazines and has led photographic tours around the country. He is from Urbandale, Iowa, and will be leading tours this year to Michigan's Upper Peninsula and to Yellowstone and Teton National Parks. His program on September 15 will be focusing on birding highlights of Nebraska such as Sandhill cranes, shorebirds, and Prairie Chickens, plus a colorful display of prairie wildflowers.

Field Trips-

Saturday, September 10, 10 AM -Noon- Wildflower Photography with Carl Kurtz

The Iowa Chapter of the Nature Conservancy is offering this opportunity to learn about creative nature photography and prairie restoration from Iowa's renowned photographer, Carl Kurtz. The trip will take place at the Kurtz's Marshall County farm near St. Anthony. From St. Anthony go west one mile on County E 23, and then turn right on Binford Ave. (gravel road) and then go north 1/8 of a mile to 1562 Binford. Turn right and follow the lane to their house, which may not be visible from the road. Wear appropriate clothing for hiking, a hat, sunscreen, and insect repellent. Also bring a camera, tripod (if you have one) and plenty of film and a drink if you wish. This trip will be held rain or shine. If you want to have a picnic on the farm, bring a bag lunch.

Wednesday, September 14, 6:30 PM, Ames High Prairie Walk

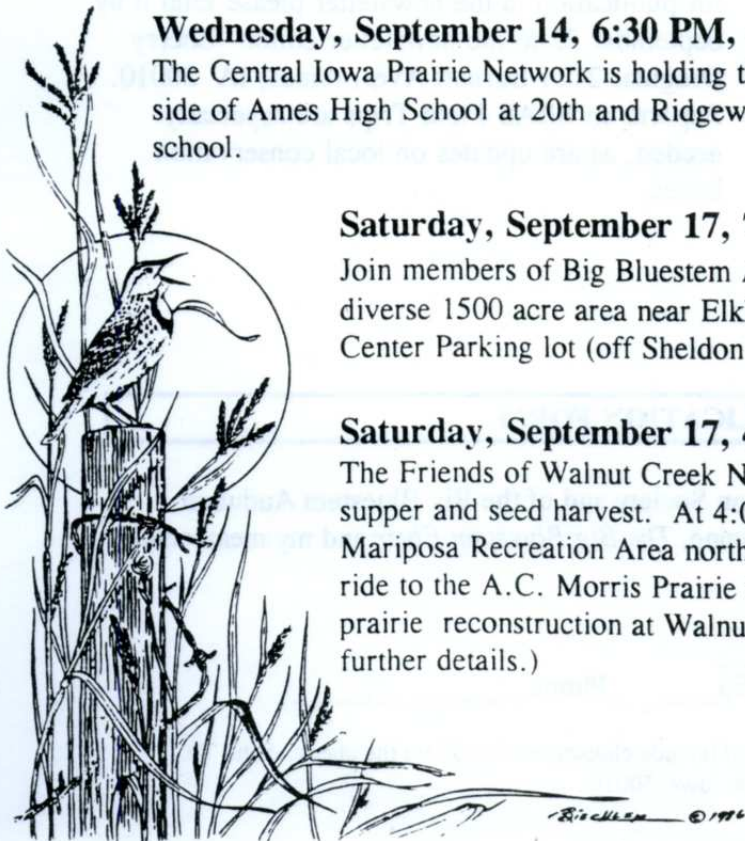
The Central Iowa Prairie Network is holding this evening walk on the prairie. Located on the west side of Ames High School at 20th and Ridgewood- follow the drive around the north end of the school.

Saturday, September 17, 7:30 AM, Chichaqua Wildlife Area

Join members of Big Bluestem Audubon for a morning of birding at this diverse 1500 acre area near Elkhart, Iowa. Meet at 7:30 AM at the I.S.U. Design Center Parking lot (off Sheldon Ave.) It takes about 1/2 hour to get to the site.

Saturday, September 17, 4 PM - A.C. Morris Prairie Seed Harvest

The Friends of Walnut Creek National Wildlife Refuge are sponsoring this potluck supper and seed harvest. At 4:00 PM there will be a pot-luck, music and games at the Mariposa Recreation Area north of Newton, Iowa. At 5:30, participants will walk or ride to the A.C. Morris Prairie to harvest seeds of prairie flowers and grasses for prairie reconstruction at Walnut Creek. (See inside of newsletter for directions and further details.)



A NOTE FROM OUR PAST PRESIDENT

As the position of President passes to Mark Widrlechner this summer, I would like to thank the Chapter for the privilege of being your President for the past two years. I wish Mark and the Chapter a great year.

It is impossible to personally thank everyone who has helped these past two years. The Chapter is dependent on each member. For without you there would be no Big Bluestem Audubon Society. The officers and board members were willing to "go the extra mile". Mike Meetz handled the "Bird of the Month" section of our meetings and he and a group of volunteers helped organize and teach the Beginning Birding Class for Story County Conservation Board. It has been a great success.

Dave Edwards worked on the format for our excellent newsletter. Sherry Dragula served as newsletter editor and was my "Ames connection". Living in Ankeny, I have had to rely on her many times and could not have done without her help. I thank the speakers and field trip leaders, and those that supplied treats for our meetings. Joyce Bahrenfus served as our Secretary taking meeting notes and mailing our newsletter and made an attractive "Audubon Adventures" poster for us.

Mark W. reprogrammed and updates our membership list monthly. Rebecca Shivers has been an excellent fundraiser, Barb Bettis has kept our books in good shape. The list goes on and on. Many thanks to everyone who helped with our activities during the last two years.

Sincerely, Maridel Jackson

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

**PEOPLE
WATER
WILDLIFE**



Convention 1994

Sheraton Harbor Place Hotel and Harborside Convention Center, Edwards Drive, Fort Myers, Florida. November 11-13, 1994:

*Provocative Speakers *Workshops
*Activist Training Sessions *Nature Shop
*Great Egret Annual Dinner with 1994 Audubon Medal Recipient, The Honorable Jimmy Carter
November 10, 14-15, 1994:

Fabulous Field Trips with Premier Birding.

If you would like registration information, field trip details or convention schedule please call Sherry Dragula, 515-233-1532.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

If you have an item you would like to submit for publication in the newsletter please send it by September 22 to the newsletter editor: Sherry Dragula, 2121 Burnett Ave., Ames, IA 50010. Reports on BBAS Field Trips are especially needed, as are updates on local conservation issues.

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

**DIRECTIONS FOR MORRIS PRAIRIE TRIP-
(CONT. From Front Page)**

To get to the Mariposa Recreation Area, take I-35 south to I-80. Continue east on I-80 for 30 miles to the second Newton exit. Go north into Newton to County T 12. Continue east and north on T 12 for 7 miles. Bring a pot-luck dish and a table setting for the supper. Bring garden gloves, hand shears and paper bags for collecting seeds. For more information call Shelly Sentyrz at 515-994-2415.

AUDUBON ADVENTURES NEEDS FUNDS

This year will be the ninth year our Society has sponsored the "Audubon Adventures" learning program in selected fourth through sixth grade classrooms in Ames and Story county. Each month the selected classrooms receive thirty two student newspapers and a teacher's guide on a topic. The four page newspaper presents environmental and natural history information in a fun way. This year's topics include: bats, deciduous trees, sea turtles, owls, amphibians, butterflies and moths.

It costs our Chapter \$35 per classroom. This year our Chapter is sponsoring 12 classrooms. **We need your help funding this worthwhile program.** You can make a donation of any amount to help us pay for classrooms which have been selected by area environmental educators. Or for \$35 or more you can specify a classroom to be sponsored (tell us the teacher's name, grade and school plus school's address). Deadline for sponsoring a particular class is October 1st. General donations for Audubon Adventures accepted at any time. **Please make checks payable to: Big Bluestem Audubon Society, and send to: Barb Bettis, 115 Peach Ln., Ames, IA 50010.** Please indicate that your donation is for "Audubon Adventures".

FIELD TRIP LEADERS NEEDED

If you enjoy taking a hike to a natural area in the Ames vicinity please consider being a Field

FIELD TRIP LEADERS- continued

Trip Leader for Big Bluestem. You don't have to be an expert in bird finding and identification. If you are willing to meet members at a specified time and place in Ames, and then lead them to and around the chosen field trip location, you qualify as a field trip leader. We also need ideas for field trips this year. Call Mark Widrlechner if you would like to help, 515-233-1532.

BIG BLUESTEM T-SHIRTS FOR SALE

Our Big Bluestem Audubon Society T-Shirts with meadowlark logo are available for \$11, in sizes large and extra large, in a variety of colors. Come to the September meeting to purchase one or call Barb Bettis at 515-232-4863.

**IOWA AUDUBON COUNCIL TO MEET 9/30-
10/2 IN NORTHEAST IOWA**

Beautiful leaf colors and migrating hawks should greet attendees at the Iowa Audubon Council gathering near Marquette, Iowa on September 30-October 2. A Field Trip to Effigy Mounds National Monument is planned to view migrating hawks. Other highlights include programs on the Conservation Reserve Program and Wildlife, and our National Wildlife Refuges (by National Audubon staff). Camping is available at the meeting site, some meals will be provided by host Chapter, Upper Iowa Audubon. Big Bluestem members are welcome to attend. Please call Sherry Dragula at 515-233-1532 if you would like to attend.

MORE PRAIRIE EVENTS

The Iowa Prairie Network is having its Annual Meeting on 9/9-9/11 at Springbrook State Park, near Guthrie Center. Three prairie trips are planned for Saturday 9/10. Another trip is planned for Sunday morning. Call Rich Pope for details at 515-232-0856.

Walnut Creek Refuge is offering prairie restoration sessions on Wednesday evenings in September, call Sherry Dragula at 515-233-1532 for details.

FUTURE BBAS EVENTS

- September 30- Oct. 2, Iowa Audubon Council Meeting & Field Trip in N.E. Iowa
October 20, Meeting: Florida Birds by David Edwards
November 17, Meeting: Brazil by Lotus and Wilmer Miller
December 15, Meeting: Holiday Meeting at the Story County Conservation Center
December 17, Ames Christmas Bird Count
December 18, Saylorville Christmas Bird Count
January 1, Boone Christmas Bird Count
January 19, Meeting: Wildlife & the Conservation Reserve by Matthew Patterson
February 16, Meeting: Natural Areas of Ames by Bill Norris
March 16, Meeting: California Desert by Wolfgang Oesterreich
April 20, Meeting: Nongame Wildlife Program by Bruce Ehresman
May 18, Meeting: Entomology by Ken Holscher

Meetings are held in Room 2532 of the Veterinary Medicine Building on the I.S.U. Campus.

BIG BLUESTEM AUDUBON SOCIETY- EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

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Vice-President: Jon Bahrenfus, 432-3396
Secretary: Joyce Bahrenfus, 432-3396
Treasurer: Barb Bettis, 232-4863

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Kay Niyo, 292-5130
Rebecca Shivers, 292-0691
Hank Zaletel, 382-5427
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Lloyd Crim, 432-5026

Newsletter Editor: Sherry Dragula, 233-1532

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