



7th & 8th →  
v 13th → Conserv. Meetg.

Big Bluestem Audubon Society, Ames, Iowa  
November, 1983  
v.17, no.3

John Stampe, Pres. 294-3370  
Tom Davis, Vice-Pres. 292-1869  
Laura Marek, Sec. 292-9762  
Judy Shearer, Treas. 292-4430  
Judy van der Linden, Ed. 232-3450  
Peter - Conserv.

NOVEMBER MEETING

- WHEN: Wednesday, Nov. 2 at 8 p.m. (preceded at 7:30 p.m. by a brief BBAS business meeting in the Scheman 3rd floor lounge)
- WHERE: Benton Auditorium, Scheman Continuing Education Center, Iowa State Center, West Lincoln Way and Elwood Drive
- WHO: Dr. Fred Cook, professor of biology, Queens University, Kingston, Ontario, and Director of the university's research facility at Churchill, Manitoba
- TOPIC: "Long Term Study of Geese in the Arctic," the annual Paul Errington Lecture

Note -- Dr. Cook has done research on Snow Geese breeding ecology, genetics and behavior since 1967. He will also present a seminar, open to the public, on Nov. 3 at 3 p.m. on the ISU campus entitled "Selection, Assortative Mating and Gene Flow in Snow Geese." Call 294-6148 for the exact location.

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HAWK SLIDES

Rolling Hills Audubon Society, Indianola, is producing a filmstrip on Iowa raptors but lacks good slides of a Sharp-shinned Hawk and a Cooper's Hawk. Anyone willing to loan such slides to RHAS to be copied may contact Richard Trieff, chapter president, RR1, New Virginia, Iowa, 50210. Members of RHAS would also like our ideas on ways to better publicize Iowa's "Chickadee Checkoff," the new program allowing Iowans to donate part of their income tax refund to a non-game wildlife fund. The value of this program to songbirds and all other non-game species could be great. Persons with ideas may contact Trieff or any BBAS officer.

GOOSE MIGRATION

The Snow Goose migration is now underway at DeSoto Bend National Wildlife Refuge near Missouri Valley, Iowa. As of Oct. 20, there were approximately 1,000 geese, 2,000 Mallards and flocks of several other species of ducks at the refuge. The migration is somewhat late this year -- normally about 20,000 geese have arrived at the refuge by this time. However, the proper weather conditions could bring in large numbers of birds anytime in the next two weeks. An auto tour of the refuge will be open to visitors daily through Nov. 6. The refuge will be closed after that date, but the visitor's center, containing artifacts of the steamboat Bertrand among other exhibits, remains open year round from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., closing only on Thanksgiving and Christmas days. A special art exhibit will be on display at the center through Nov. 6. BBAS member Erv Klaas visits the refuge weekly and will give migration updates to anyone interested. He may be reached days at 294-3056 and evenings at 233-3327.

CANDIDATES POSITIONS

BBAS member Cindy Hildebrand has available and will bring to the November meeting a 47-page report from the League of Conservation Voters called "Current Democratic Presidential Candidates for 1984 -- Their Records and Positions to Date on Energy and the Environment." Members are welcome to look at or borrow it. The report describes each candidate's voting record, any leadership role he might have played and his positions on current environmental issues.

A second, more up-to-date report is scheduled to come out later and will include President Reagan and any other new candidates. Cindy will have that report when it becomes available, but persons who want to obtain their own copies may write: League of Conservation Voters, 317 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E., Washington, D.C., 20003. Membership in the League costs \$18 per year and copies of the candidates report cost \$5 apiece.

UPCOMING EVENTS

--Dr. Lois Tiffany, an ISU professor of botany and specialist in fungi or mushrooms, will lead a walk on Oct. 30 at 3 p.m. through the woods surrounding the YMCA Outdoor Recreational Center. The walk is open to the public and will begin at the center parking lot. To find the center from Ames, drive west along 13th Street until it becomes Ontario Road. Proceed about 1/2 mile to Scholl Drive. Turn right, heading north on Scholl until it ends at a gate. Turn right at the gate onto a gravel road and follow it several hundred yards to the parking lot.

--A political skills training conference sponsored by Americans for the Environment will be held Nov. 19, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., at Hawthron Hill, 921 Pleasant, Des Moines. Call 515-283-1911 for additional information and fee rates.

--Ways area Audubon chapter members may help stop the controversial Garrison Diversion Project in North Dakota will be discussed at a meeting Nov. 19 at the Holiday Inn, I-35 and I-90, Albert Lea, Minn. (See article elsewhere in this issue)

--Members of Iowa environmental groups interested in seeing their concerns discussed by both political parties in the upcoming Iowa caucuses may wish to contact Dick Worm, a representative of the Iowa Environmental Coalition, at 3500 Kingman Blvd., Des Moines, 50311. The coalition's focus during this election will be the issue of toxic waste in Iowa. *10 per memb. of organy, - \$20 \$50 mailg.*

---There will be a meeting of the Education Committee Nov. 9 at 7:30 p.m. at Judy van der Linden's home, 610 9th St., to decide on a committee project for the year.

--The deadline for the December "Bluestem Flyer" will be Nov. 30 at 5 p.m. Send items for publication to Judy van der Linden, 610 9th St.

COMMITTEE UPDATE

Most of the BBAS committees are off to a slow start this year. It certainly isn't too late to join one. Below is a list of committees, their chairpersons and a brief description of what each did last year. Particular committee projects vary from year to year depending on the interests of the members and the needs of the society.

Field Trip -- no chairperson yet. Arranged 8 field trips to natural areas or other places of interest to see birds, mushrooms & native and exotic plants. One trip was the NAS Christmas Bird Count.

*Rep. Ralph Rosenberg*

*Chap. 180*

- Education -- no chairperson yet. Compiled and submitted to Ames school teachers a list of approximately 8 persons willing to give nature-related programs in classrooms.
- Publicity -- Cindy Hildebrand, 3323 Harcourt, 232-3807. Publicized BBAS meetings, field trips and an award presentation.
- Publications -- Judy van der Linden, 610 9th St., 232-3450. Published 10 issues of the Bluestem Flyer.
- Membership -- Janet Graver, 1468 Breckinridge Ct., 232-8185. Conducted a membership drive that allowed BBAS to graduate from affiliate to chapter status within NAS in 1982-83.
- Conservation -- Peter van der Linden, 610 9th St., 232-3450. Brought to members' attention various conservation issues throughout the year.

Anyone interested in a vacant chairperson position may contact John Stampe, 294-3370. Cindy Hildebrand asks persons interested in helping with publicity, either as photographers, writers or in other ways, to contact her.

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### NAS VERSUS GARRISON

At a meeting of the Iowa Audubon Council (IAC) on Oct. 8 and at the October BBAS meeting the issue of the Garrison Diversion Project in North Dakota was discussed. National Audubon Society (NAS) has long opposed this project to divert water from the Missouri River to irrigate North Dakota land that is already suitable for dryland farming. IAC representatives agreed that persons and chapters who are considering leaving NAS because they believe NAS now is neglecting the Garrison project should not do so. Dropping out of NAS would be playing into the hands of NAS President Russell Peterson, who claims NAS's opposition to the project is as strong as ever. Representatives agreed that NAS is basically a grassroots organization and for that reason, current members should stay in the society to direct it.

The national organization has used three approaches in its fight against Garrison -- congressional, judicial and on-the-spot or grassroots. It is still continuing the fight in the first two areas, but it has given up its grassroots organization and pulled out of North Dakota. I believe we must push NAS back into the vital role of grassroots activism in North Dakota. The national office can start by reopening an office in that state. All members in this region will have a chance to speak up at a meeting Nov. 19 at Albert Lea, Minn., on Garrison. (See upcoming events elsewhere in this issue.) It is vital that action be taken now as the survey work at the site of the Garrison project is being completed and draglines are in place. The Department of Reclamation was allocated \$22.5 million by Congress this year for project work.

--John Stampe

One of three statewide symposiums on toxic and hazardous waste will be held in Ames on Nov. 6. Call Cele Burnett at 232-2791 for more information.

Write your senators and urge them to support a proposed environmental protection plan that would go into effect during construction of Lock and Dam 26 at Alton, Ill. Call John Stampe for more information about the plan and the congressional timetable for action on it.

Clean Air - Sen. - S-768

Hse - H R 3400 needs cosponsors

Clean H2O

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Publications -- Judy van der Linden, 610 9th St., 332-3450. Published 10 issues of the Bismarck Flyer.
Membership -- James Graver, 1488 Breckinridge Ct., 332-8185. Conducted a membership drive that allowed BBAE to graduate from affiliate to chapter status within NAA in 1982-83.
Convention -- Peter van der Linden, 610 9th St., 332-3450. Brought to members attention various conservation issues throughout the year.
Anyone interested in a vacant chairperson position may contact John Stamps, 334-3370. Cindy Hildebrand asks persons interested in helping with publicity, either as photographers, writers or in other ways, to contact her.

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--John Stamps

One of three statewide symposiums on toxic and hazardous waste will be held in Ames on Nov. 6. Call Gale Burnett at 332-2791 for more information.
Write your senators and urge them to support a proposed environmental protection plan that would go into effect during construction of lock and dam 28 at Alton, Ill. Call John Stamps for more information about the plan and the congressional timetable for action on it.