

Big Bluestem Flyer

May/June 1996 Vol.31, No.5

May Monthly Meeting

"Restoration Ecology--Science or Art?" by Erwin Klaas
Thursday, May 9, 7:30 pm, Room 2532 Veterinary Medicine Building, ISU

Dr. Klaas is a Professor of Animal Ecology at I.S.U. and the Leader of the Iowa Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit. He became interested in restoration ecology in 1990 while helping with some of the early planning for Walnut Creek National Wildlife Refuge. As a research biologist he studied effects of DDT on bird reproduction. At ISU he has spent most of the last 20 years studying waterfowl.

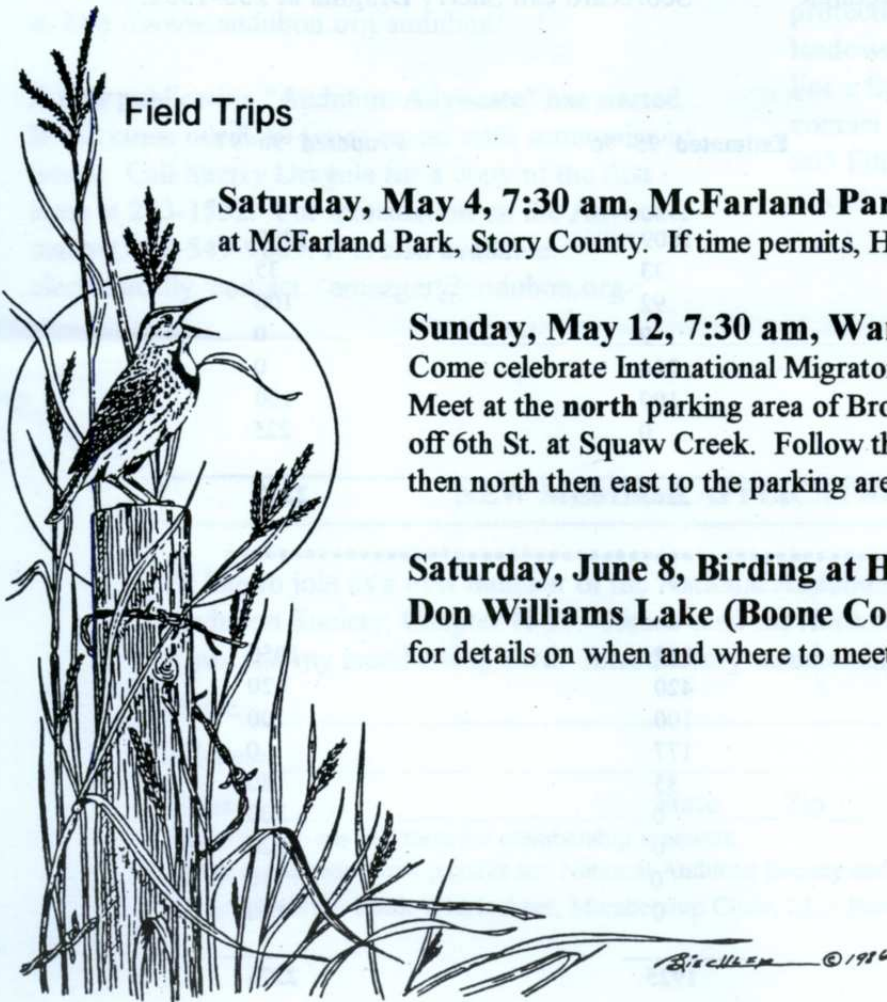
Dr. Klaas will briefly discuss several restoration projects that have started in Central Iowa and offer his perspective as a researcher trying to figure out what are the appropriate questions to ask. He says, "There is a large and growing grassroots effort to preserve and repair our lands and waters. As government appears to be retreating from a lead role in conservation activities (because of limited fiscal and human resources), private efforts are filling the gap. As a result of this growing interest in ecological restoration, restoration ecology is emerging as a "new" science to help fill the need for better information."

Field Trips

Saturday, May 4, 7:30 am, McFarland Park Birding. Meet at the Main parking area at McFarland Park, Story County. If time permits, Hallett's Quarry will be visited as well.

Sunday, May 12, 7:30 am, Warbler Watch at Brookside Park
Come celebrate International Migratory Bird Day by watching migrating warblers. Meet at the north parking area of Brookside Park in Ames. Brookside is located off 6th St. at Squaw Creek. Follow the park road all the way around to the west then north then east to the parking area.

Saturday, June 8, Birding at Holst State Forest & Breakfast at Don Williams Lake (Boone County). Call Mark Widrechner (233-1532) for details on when and where to meet for this trip.



Nominations Committee Report

The Nominations Committee submits the following slate for consideration at the May meeting Election: for President: Stan Cyran, for Vice-President: Kay Niyo, for Secretary: Joyce Bahrenfus, for Treasurer: Paul Ovrom, for two year Board terms: Dave Guy, Kevin Healy, Karl Jungbluth, for one year Board terms: Rebecca Shivvers, Carol Berrier. Thanks to Kay Niyo, Rebecca Shivvers and Paul Ovrom for serving as the Nominations Committee. The Election will be held at the May monthly meeting. Appointments were made by the Board at their last meeting for the following positions: Newsletter Editor- Rebecca Shivvers, Field Trip Chair- Jon Bahrenfus, Conservation Chair- Sherry Dragula, Membership Chair- Mark Widrlechner.

"Birds of Story County" Book

The "Birds of Story County" will be available soon from Big Bluestem Audubon Society. Authored by Steve Dinsmore and Hank Zaletel, it will list all bird species noted for Story County as well as their abundance and dates of occurrence. The books will sell for \$3 and will be available at monthly meetings.

Tentative Mortensen Road Prairie Burn

If the Story County burning ban is lifted, there will be a Prairie Burn at the Mortensen Road site (where Ash Ave. meets Mortensen) in Ames on **Saturday, May 4, at 1 pm.** Bring gloves, and lopping shears. Call Mark Widrlechner at 233-1532 if you are in doubt as to whether the burn will occur.

National Environmental Scorecard Released

The League of Conservation Voters National Environmental Scorecard gives low environmental marks to the 104th Congress. In 1995, most members voted contrary to public opinion on the environment. The scores of the Iowa delegation are as follows (100% represents a pro-environment vote on each of 12 different environmental votes): Rep. Leach-46%, Rep. Nussle-8%, Rep. Lightfoot-0%, Rep. Ganske-0%, Rep. Latham-0%. In the Senate there were 14 votes used for the scorecard and the rankings were: Senator Grassley-7%, Senator Harkin-93%. To receive a copy of the Midwest Regional Scorecard call Sherry Dragula at 233-1532.

Big Bluestem Audubon Society Budget

	Estimated '95-'96	Proposed '96-'97
Income		
National Audubon Rebate	1809	1800
Newsletter Donations	33	35
Audubon Adventures Donations	92	100
Tree Sales	9	0
Wildlife Viewing Guides	224	0
Brekke's Coupon	100	100
Bird's of Story County (75 @ \$3 each)	0	225
Total	2267	2260

Expenses		
Newsletter	967	1050
Audubon Adventures Subscriptions (12)	420	420
Iowa Audubon Council	100	100
Wildlife Guides	177	0
Programs (Speaker's Dinner)	35	80
Birds of Story County	0	300
Insurance	0	226
Administration (copies, postage)	0	50
Armchair Activist (subscription)	0	50
Total	1925	2276

Audubon Grassroots News

If you would like information on environmental issues in a timely fashion there are a number of sources available from Audubon. The D.C. office of Audubon operates an Actionline 800 number service to update you on issues currently being considered by Congress and the Administration. The number for the Audubon Actionline is 1-800-659-2622. All the information you need to make a phone call is on the pre-recorded Actionline which is updated on Fridays. When you want to make that phone call to Congress, you can call the Capitol Switchboard at 1-800-962-3524.

If you have access to E-mail, Audubon-News is a Read-Only network designed to send news automatically to you, including Action Alerts and issue updates. To subscribe, send an E-Mail message as follows:

To: Majordomo@igc.apc.org

From: your e-mail address

Subject: <the subject line is ignored>

Text: Subscribe audubon-news

The Audubon Home Page on the World Wide Web is <http://www.audubon.org/audubon/>

A new publication "Audubon Advocate" has started. It will come out 8-10 times a year with summaries of issues. Call Sherry Dragula for a copy of the first issue at 233-1532. For information on the Advocate contact 202-547-9009. It is also available electronically, contact [<emezger@audubon.org>](mailto:emezger@audubon.org)

National Audubon Convention, June 8-12

Twenty-five years of progress in safeguarding our environment is now under fire in Congress. Our challenge to protect birds, wildlife and their habitat is being tested as never before. The 1996 Convention in Washington D.C. is where we renew our commitment and explore what it means to foster a "culture of conservation". The program will include political action, training and workshops on habitat protection plus a diverse array of field trips to experience the natural history of the area. To receive materials contact: Audubon Convention Office, 4150 Darley Ave., #5, Boulder, CO 80303; Phone: 303-499-3622; Fax: 303-499-0286; E-Mail: convention@audubon.org

Free Book on Protecting Natural Areas

The Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation is offering a free booklet, "The Landowner's Options", as a guide to the voluntary protection of Iowa land. The 64 page booklet features true-life examples and clear explanations of 18 legal methods of permanent land protection in Iowa. Many of the options provide the landowner with compensation or tax benefits. For a free copy of "The Landowner's Options, contact the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation at 505 Fifth Ave., Suite #444, Des Moines, IA 50309 or call 515-288-1846.

NEW MEMBER 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 do not use this form for membership renewals.

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

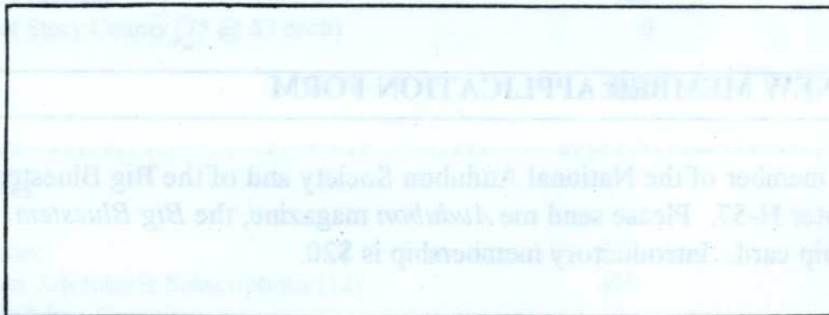
Big Bluestem Audubon Society Board Members

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

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

Newsletter Editor: Sherry Dragula, 233-1532

Iowa Bird Sightings Hotline- 319-338-9881



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