

AMES AUDUBON

NEWSLETTER

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, June 10, 8 p.m., Room 120, Kildee Hall, ISU. Executive Board meeting. This will be the first such regular Board meeting since our May elections. Several very important items will be discussed. All Board members are urged to attend. All other Audubon members are invited to attend this and all subsequent Board meetings.

June Outings. A significant new Ames Audubon project is to be discussed at the June 10 Board meeting. Several outings in connection with the project will be scheduled at that time. Members will be informed in time to participate.

Wednesday, July 16, 8 p.m., Ames Public Library Auditorium. Dr. Wayne Rowley, ISU Biologist specializing in Mosquitoes, will present a timely illustrated talk on the mosquito problem in Iowa. A lot of misinformation on this subject needs to be clarified. Dr. Rowley is fully qualified to do this, and has graciously consented to present the program. This is another in the Ames Audubon series of public service programs.

REPORT ON THE ANNUAL MAY MEETING OF AMES AUDUBON

The annual meeting was held on May 13 in the Ames Library Auditorium. A goodly turnout was on hand and a lively session ensued. The 1st order of business was the financial report by Mrs. Gerald Robinson, club Treasurer. Copies of the report are being mailed to all members. Mrs. Robinson did a fine job and is to be complimented for her efforts. Normand Hamilton of the special awards committee then recommended that Dr. Roger Landers be awarded an Honorary membership in Ames Audubon. The members then unanimously voted that a certificate be presented to Dr. Landers of ISU in recognition and appreciation of his participation in the conservation activities of the Ames Audubon Society.

Amendments to our Constitution were then discussed. These had been presented at the April meeting. One of the changes adopted at this meeting designated 2 new membership classes. A membership will be designated Supporting when at least \$25., or Contributing when at least \$10., has been subscribed to the Ames Audubon Society any time during the year in which a regular membership is in effect. At the onset of the year (of membership), the dues for the appropriate other regular membership must be paid. Certificated will be awarded to those attaining the status of Supporting or Contributing memberships.

The other major Constitution change adopted concerns Society meetings. Full-membership meetings will be scheduled in September, January, and in May, the latter being the Annual meeting for the election of officers and related business. Executive Board meetings will be scheduled every other month starting in June. All nine of these regular meetings will be primarily for the conduct of Society business. They will occur each month except in July, November, and March. All these meetings will be scheduled on the 2nd Tuesday of the month and will be at the Ames Public Library Auditorium, if available. All members are

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(Report on Ames Audubon Annual Meeting--cont'd from page 1)
 therefore urged to reserve the night of the 2nd Tuesday of those months in order to attend Society meetings. Plans are to have programs in conjunction with the full-membership meetings in September, January, and in May. In addition, special business meetings may be necessary at other times of the year as the occasion demands. However, few, if any, are presently anticipated. Also, other programs and meetings in connection with various projects will be scheduled throughout the year.

Other committee reports were then presented, followed by the election of officers for the coming year. Re-elected President and Vice-President were Ben Bereskin and Normand Hamilton. Darlene Clark was elected Secretary and Gerald Robinson, Treasurer. Elected to 2-year terms as Directors on the Executive Board were Steve Hanselmann, Mrs. W. J. Miller, and Mrs. C. E. Sellers. David Hoffman was elected for one year to complete a vacated Directorship. The other Director on the 9-member Executive Board is W. J. Miller, who has one year remaining on his 2-year term, having been elected in 1968.

Following the election of officers, the members voted to conduct our first annual spring bird survey in Ames and adjacent areas on the weekend of May 24 and 25. A pot-luck picnic was to be held in conjunction with the event. Mrs. W. J. Miller agreed to coordinate arrangements for the picnic and Steve Hanselmann agreed to serve as chairman of the bird survey. (More details reported elsewhere in this issue)

Finally, the members voted to renew Affiliate membership in the National Audubon Society and to participate in the Ames Memorial Day Parade.

Following the business meeting, the members were treated to an illustrated talk by Steve Hanselmann. He related his experiences while serving as Naturalist in the Acadia National Park in the state of Maine last summer. He showed a number of outstanding slides on birds, coastlines, wooded areas, islands, and other features on the natural history of that most interesting section of the country. Steve's program was appreciated by all and provided a fitting close to a most enjoyable and lively meeting for all who attended.

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A Successful First Year Behind Us--
 A Challenging New Year Lies Ahead ---

Although many local people may not have thought that Ames Audubon would survive our first year, we have emerged stronger than ever. This was possible only through the faith and unselfish hard work of a small group of dedicated members who refused to give up when the going got rough. We now face our second year with renewed optimism and determination to greatly increase the scope of our activities in behalf of sound conservation practices on the local, state, and national levels.

We have the framework for a successful program in the months to come. This includes the Rachel Carson Memorial Lecture, Conservation Public Forum, Wildlife Issues Lecture, Christmas Census, spring bird survey, and Conservationist-of-the-Year Award. A new feature will be the Audubon Wildlife Film-and-Lecture Series. Also, a number of special programs will be presented. In addition, new public service projects are in the works. Our goal is to have a dynamic and interesting program to appeal to wide segments of the public, and stimulate (Cont'd on page 3)

(Cont'd from page 2) their interest in the crucial environmental problems facing all of us today.

Those elected to positions of trust by the membership will bear the brunt of the responsibility in carrying out these projects in the coming year. However, only the interest and full participation by all our members will assure the success of our efforts. In addition, we urgently need new members who are willing to help out in their own way, and at the same time get acquainted with and enjoy the fellowship of other people who have like interests. Our membership fees are modest, tax-deductible, and are for worthy public-service activities. We invite interested persons to return the information-request form on page 4 of this newsletter and learn how they can join us in these efforts. Better yet, attend our next event and get acquainted. Non-members are under no obligation at any time. We're happy to have you.

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Ames Audubon Conducts a Successful Spring Bird Survey

A total of 112 different species of birds were identified in the annual spring survey in Ames and adjacent areas by members of the Ames Audubon Society. The survey was held on May 24 and 25 to coincide with the peak migration period for land birds through the area. Favorable sites in a 20-mile radius of Ames were visited, featuring a variety of habitats. Included were Brookside and River Valley parks in Ames, Ledges State park near Boone, Hendrickson marsh and Hickory Grove lake in eastern Story county, Little Wall and Goose lakes near Jewell, and open country in adjacent areas. Many of the species remain in these areas during the summer, while others continue farther north for their nesting season. Steve Hanselmann ably served as chairman for the event. Other participants were Mrs. Hanselmann, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Bereskin, Mrs. Ross Curtiss, Mr. and Mrs. David Hoffman, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Barton Morgan, and Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Robinson.

The identified species, arranged according to natural groupings, are as follows: pied-billed grebe, green heron, Mallard duck, green-winged and blue-winged teals, shoveler, wood, and ruddy ducks, turkey vulture, sharp-shinned, red-tailed, marsh, and sparrow hawks, ring-necked pheasant, sora, American coot, killdeer, spotted, solitary, least, and semipalmated sandpipers, and black tern.

Rock and mourning doves, yellow-billed cuckoo, common nighthawk, chimney swift, ruby-throated hummingbird, yellow-shafted flicker, red-bellied, red-headed, yellow-bellied, hairy, and downy woodpeckers, eastern kingbird, great-crested, Traill's, and least flycatchers, eastern phoebe, eastern wood peewee, horned lark, tree, barn, and cliff swallows, purple martin, blue jay, and common crow.

Black-capped chickadee, tufted titmouse, white-breasted nuthatch, house, long-billed marsh, and short-billed marsh wrens, catbird, brown thrasher, robin, Swainson's and grey-cheeked thrushes, veery, eastern bluebird, blue-grey gnatcatcher, cedar waxwing, loggerhead shrike, and starling.

Bell's, red-eyed, Philadelphia, and warbling vireos, blue-winged, Tennessee, Nashville, yellow, magnolia, Myrtle, black-throated green, chestnut-sided, bay-breasted, Wilson's, and Canada warblers, ovenbird, northern and Louisiana waterthrushes, yellowthroat, and American redstart.

House sparrow, bobolink, eastern and western meadowlarks, yellow-headed, red-winged, and rusty blackbirds, Baltimore oriole, common grackle, brown-headed cowbird, cardinal, rose-breasted grosbeak, indigo bunting, dickcissel, American goldfinch, (Cont'd on page 4)

(Continued from page 3) rufous-sided towhee, and slate-colored junco.

Savannah, grasshopper, LeConte's, vesper, chipping, field, white-throated, Lincoln's, swamp, and song sparrows.

While no claim is made as to the completeness of the list of birds in the areas noted, it does serve as a useful starting point for those interested in identifying those species that are available in the area at this time of year. Perhaps next year, more members will participate so that a larger number can be noted. It was a most successful start on an enjoyable and useful project, however.

Steve Hanselmann has indicated he may conduct a similar survey for the U.S. Wildlife Service in the next couple of weeks. Anyone interested should contact him.

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Notes on Other Recent Audubon Activities

Several Audubon members visited the ISU Natural History Museum the evening of Friday, May 23, as a primer for the weekend bird survey. The many bird specimens were carefully examined and recordings of the songs of various birds were played. We hope to schedule another visit at a later date for those who were not able to attend.

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A pot-luck picnic was held at the 13th Street end of River Valley park on Saturday evening, May 24, as a part of the bird survey. There was a good turnout, plenty of delicious food, and much friendly conversation by all. Following the meal, most of the group took a birding hike thru the northern sections of River Valley park until dusk. Everyone had a great time. Mrs. Lotus Miller was chief coordinator and she was ably assisted by Mrs. Dianne Hanselmann.

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Ames Audubon was represented in the Ames Memorial Day Parade. Our car carried a sign on either side with "Ames Audubon Society" and one on the back stating, "Conserve our Natural Resources and Wildlife." It was a beautiful sunny morning and the hundreds of observers who lined the parade route were made aware, some for the first time, that Ames Audubon is an active participant in worthy local events.

WE ARE HAPPY TO WELCOME MRS. MIRIAM BOND AS A NEW AMES AUDUBON MEMBER.

Mr. Kent Duren will present the first Audubon Wildlife Film Lecture on Wednesday, November 5, in Ames. The title of his program is "Death Valley-Land of Contrast." Reserve that date NOW!

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A NOTE TO ALL NON-MEMBERS OF AMES AUDUBON

We would be happy to continue sending our newsletter to you, under no obligation to you, whatsoever. All we ask is that you send us the following form with your name and address filled in. If you have already sent in such a form, ignore this reminder. Thank you.

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Yes, I would like to continue receiving the Ames Audubon Newsletter in the future with the full understanding there will be no obligation, whatsoever, to me or to my family.

Mail to: _____ Name _____
Ames Audubon Newsletter _____ St. or other no. _____
2414 Kellogg _____ City and State _____
Ames, Iowa 50010 _____

Check here if you wish membership information.