

WALTER ROSENE

WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST

127 OAK CIRCLE

GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35901

March 24, 1993

Hank
FYI

Ms. Pam Allen, Treasurer
1601 Pleasant Street
Des Moines, Ia. 50265

Dear Pam:

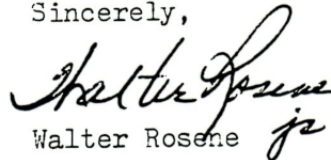
Am writing to you as we have had correspondence.

Thought you would be interested in the origin of how the Goldfinch became nominated for the Iowa bird. I went with my father, who was the first president of the I. O. U., to see Althea R. Sherman and her Chimney Swift tower. She graciously showed us the tower with the steps around the chimney with its many peep holes. Then she invited us in her house. She was an old maid and had an old sister living with her. We talked birds. Her sister was a very good artist and brought out a painting of a Goldfinch perched on a thistle. My father was impressed and said "This should be the State bird."

He corresponded with Arthur Pallas, Mary Bailey, Mrs. Toni Wendleburg and others in the I. O. U. and if I remember correctly, it was voted on at the next I. O. U. meeting. With I. O. U. endorsement it was presented to the Legislature.

I often wonder what happened to that painting.

Sincerely,



Walter Rosene jr

WR:jc
CC: Ann M. Barker, Pres.