Calendar of Events
February 11, Thursday, 7:00 pm: ASCA Board Meeting at the Game & Fish Commission Bldg. Karen Yaich will speak about the Eagle Hacking program.
February 13, Saturday, 8:00 am: ASCA field trip to Hindman Park in Southwest Little Rock. (See article on page 3.)
February 21, Sunday: Learn how to care for injured or orphaned wild birds at Pinecastle Mountain State Park. Call 868-5806.
March 11, Thursday, 7:00 pm: ASCA Board Meeting at the Game & Fish Commission Building. All members are invited to attend.
March 27, Saturday, 7:15 pm: ASCA field trip (to Harry Blake WMA. (See article on page 3.)
March 28, Sunday, 2:00 pm: Slide show on Arkansas wildflowers by Larry Fenn. Call The Oasis Renewal Center at 225-6890.
April 3, Saturday, 9:00 am-4:00 pm: Annual Crash Bird Course at Pinacle. (See article on page 2.)
May 8: ASCA BIRDTHON (See articles on page 1 and page 2 for more information.)

Charles Cremon, noted Arkansas Environmentalist

Charley "Chuck" Cremon, one of Arkansas's most accomplished and well-liked environmentalists, passed away in early January. ASCA extends its sympathy to his family including his wife, Harriet, two daughters and two step-children.

Cremon helped lead the fight during the 1991 General Assembly ses-

sion to restore Arkansas' 1975 Act on Pollution Control & Ecology (DPEC & E) Commission.

That effort achieved partial success.

He had served in various leadership positions including president of the Sierra Club–Arkansas Chapter, president of Arkansas Environmental Reform (AER) and as coordinator for the Arkansas Conservation Coalition (ACC). ACC had presented its inaugural "Environmental Stewardship Award" to Chuck on October 31, 1992. The Cremon Environmental Stewardship Award is named in his behalf as a shining example of what one person can accomplish with the help of his equally dedicated wife, Harriet. Chuck also recently received a "Woody Award" from the Sierra Club.

In lieu of flowers, Chuck requested that memorial donations be made to the Arkansas Conservation Coalition. Please see to check at Arkansas Conservation Coalition, P.O. Box 3221, Little Rock, AR 72203. Memorial donations will be used in conjunction with the Cremon Environmental Stewardship Award.

Upcoming Activities at Pinecastle Mountain State Park

Whether your interest is fish, fowl or fur-

- or- - or- - - . Pinecastle Mountain State Park has a program that will catch your fancy.

Pinecastle River Seclusion Weekend arrives with June Collier and her magnificent birds of prey. February 13 and 14. This popular program is free but seating is limited.

The basics of flyfishing will be the subject of February 20 when veteran Tom Haselgrove demonstrates fly-tying and offers hands-on fly-tying instructions. Cost is $20.00.

Hotlines

ASCA Rare Bird Alert: 7ES-5853. Call to learn what birds have been sighted and where, and leave a message about the birds you've seen. If you need information about Audubon, leave your name and number and someone will get back with you.

Senior Audubon Hotline: 202-542-9701, ext. 2345. (After hours press "4" on the telephone keypad as soon as you hear the recorded greeting.) A recorded message gives you background information and current status of Audubon's priority issues. Available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, so you can call when the rates are cheapest for this area. It is great for conservation activists who like to follow the issues, or just to keep informed.

National Wildlife Federation Legislative Hotline: 202-776-6065. A 24-hour message updated every Tuesday. It's available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, so you can call when the rates are cheapest for this area. It is great for conservation activists who like to follow the issues, or just to keep informed.

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Congressional Reference Service: 202-225-1772. To learn the current status on any Federal bill, call between 9:00 am and 6:00 pm. Be sure to have the bill's number or official title ready; the service is free, but the call isn't.

Senators and Representatives

Senator Dale Bumpers, 225 DSO9, Washington, D.C. 20510, 202-224-4843; LR 324-6286

Senator David Pryor, 267 HSO9, Washington, D.C. 20510, 202-224-2553; LR 324-6338

Representative Jay Dickey, 1318 LR90, Washington, D.C. 20515, 202-225-7772

Representative Tim Hutchinson, 1541 LR90, Washington, D.C. 20515, 202-225-4301

Representative Blanche Lambert, 1203 LR90, Washington, D.C. 20515, 202-225-376

Representative Raymond Thornton, 1214 LR90, Washington, D.C. 20515, 202-225-2566; LR 324-6241

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Serious Environmental Bills in Current Legislative Session

As you know by now, the Legislature is back in session. Various special interests have cooked up two killer environmental bills – House Bill 1062 and Senate Bill 22. They are companion bills, identical as this is written. They would set back environmental protection in Arkansas by 15 years or more. Here is what they would:

- Reduce citizens' rights to participate in rulemaking, enforcement and permitting issues.

- Give polluters the first offensive line. There would be no fine as long as a polluter agrees (after getting caught!) to obey the law. It would essentially negate the value of issuing fines to insure the law is obeyed.

- End the "right" to pollute to a property right. This is revolutionary!

In effect, the state (that is you and me) would have to compensate a property owner who is prevented from polluting his own land (no matter how little it might impact you and your land).

- Shifts certain powers from the Department to the Court. This is a much more politically sensitive body that can be manipulated by special interest influences.

The list goes on and on. If passed, these bills would seriously weaken the environmental protection provided today in Arkansas.

So what can you do to help? Please call Governor JimGuy Tucker (682-2345) at the Capitol, during daytime hours and express your strong opposition to both HB 1062 and SB 22. Also, ask the Governor to support the following three proposals for bill number one (at this time) offered by Arkansans for Environmental Reform (see December 1992 Special Stewardship article) (1) to eliminate the six state agency heads from the Commission; (2) to eliminate conflict of interest by requiring the Environmental Protection Agency is demanding Arkansas get this done, but the state is dragging its feet. (3) and to strenthen the permit appeal process to allow all involved parties to quickly get the issue settled.

Also, call your state senator (682-2902 at the Capitol message center, daytime hours) and register your opposition to SB 22 and support for the three Arkansas bills. And last, call your representative (372-6211 at the Castillio) and express your opposition to HB 1062 and support for the three AER bills to improve environmental regulation.

If you have further questions, call Barry Haas (225-5806). Your calls do make a difference, so please help keep environmental regulation from being watered down. Make sure you spread the word about this legislation.

ASCA February 11th Program

The guest speaker for ASCA's February 11th meeting will be Karen Yaich, who will talk about the Eagle Hacking Program in Arkansas. Karen works for Arkansas Game & Fish Commission, and is an important and interesting speaker for ASCA.

The program starts at 7:00 pm in the Pinacle meeting room. All members are invited to attend the monthly meetings.

BIRDATHON Coordinator Needed

ASCA is in need of a person to volunteer to be the BIRDATHON Coordinator. The Coordinator's job is to head up the BIRDATHON planning and recruiting Teams and birders for the BIRDATHON. If this job description sounds appealing, a successful BIRDATHON would be assured. If you would be interested, please contact Drew Phillips at 228-5245.

Christmas Bird Count Update

The Little Rock and Lonoke Christmas Bird Count weekends dawned cloudy and cool and, in contrast to last year, decidedly less windy. In Little Rock on December 19, conditions went from bad to worse as fog settled in followed by a steady rain late in the day. As a consequence of these conditions, only 85 species and 14,861 birds were collected, they being by 21 people in eight parties and ten lucky people doing the feeder watch. Notable birds were the Rufous and Black-chinned Hummingbirds, which had been staked out earlier at feeders, Virginia Rail, Spotted Towhee, and Least Sandpiper. No Purple Finches and few Siskins were found on either count.

On the very next day many of the Little Rock count were at Lonoke. This count was eight parties containing 28 people. Conditions were improved with a little sun around noon but generally gray. Lance Peacock and Don Seelbach found the round the usual "good" birds, which were Dunlin and Black-bellied Plovers. Other exciting finds were Greater Scaup, 80 Great Egrets, and Harlan's Hawk. A total of 99 species and 50,557 individual birds were counted.

Other counts and total species noted were: Fairfield Bay – 80; Arkadelphia – 105; Pine Bluff – 104; White River – 87; Holla Bend – 115; and Lake Chicot – 114.

1993 BIRDATHON Dates Set

ASCA has set May 8th as our Official BIRDATHON date. Participants may use any continuous 24 hour period from May 1 - May 10, according to the rules of the ASCA BIRDATHON. The BIRDATHON is a tremendous amount of fun and easier than you think. Join us this year! If you would like to participate but need someone to team up with, call Drew Phillips at 228-5245, and he will help you find someone. If you would like to sponsor someone, call Drew and he will help you find someone to sponsor. This is ASCA's best opportunity to raise money for worthy projects. The better we do, the more we can do for environmental education and research projects. All members are invited to participate.

Vol. XXVI, No. 1

THE AUDUBON SOCIETY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS

In This Issue

The President's Column

Spring River Conference

Crash Bird Course

What is a Birdathon?

Upcoming ASCA Field Trips

Tours led by Dora Weyer

Calendar of Events
Spring River Conference – March 18-22

It’s that time of year again for the annual sandhill crane migration in the Spring River valley in central Nebraska. And, as usual, the annual Audubon Spring River Conference is being held March 18-22. The conference will feature invited speakers, slide presentations, films, workshops, field trips and other events. Approximately 500,000 sandhill cranes depend on the Platte River as a spring staging area in March and April each year. It is a very special week with little else going on in the area.

In conjunction with the Spring River Conference the second international Crane Symposium will be held March 18-19 in Kearney. Entitled, "People, Water and Wildlife: Impacts on Cranes," the symposium will address the current status and future of several of the world's crane species.

Spring River Conference Schedule:

Wednesday, March 18
- 4:00 PM: Registration and Lodge Check-In
- 7:00 PM: Dinner and Welcome

Thursday, March 19
- 7:30 AM: Breakfast Buffet
- 7:30 AM: Excursion to Cranes of the Platte Valley
- 9:00 AM: Conference Program
- 12:00 PM: Lunch
- 1:00 PM: Break
- 1:30 PM: Conference Program
- 6:00 PM: Dinner

Friday, March 20
- 7:30 AM: Breakfast Buffet
- 9:00 AM: Conference Program
- 12:00 PM: Lunch
- 1:00 PM: Break
- 1:30 PM: Conference Program
- 6:00 PM: Dinner

Saturday, March 21
- 7:30 AM: Breakfast Buffet
- 9:00 AM: Conference Program
- 12:00 PM: Lunch
- 1:00 PM: Break
- 1:30 PM: Conference Program
- 6:00 PM: Dinner

Sunday, March 22
- 7:30 AM: Breakfast Buffet
- 9:00 AM: Conference Program
- 12:00 PM: Lunch
- 1:00 PM: Break
- 1:30 PM: Conference Program
- 6:00 PM: Farewell Dinner and Luncheon

For more information, contact Bill Sheppard, Audubon of Nebraska, 808 Locust St., 402-474-9503.

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RARE BIRD ALERT: BIRDWATCHING, #1 Powderhorn Court, 2016

RARE BIRD ALERT TELLS OF Sightings across the State

For more information, call Holly.

Upcoming Audubon Society of Central America travels:

April 1-2: Birdwatching
- Start date: March 26
- End date: April 2
- Locations: Kearney, Nebraska

For more information, call Holly.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Check the Membership You Desire (Includes Audubon Magazine)

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3. Senior individual $160.00
4. Family $290.00
5. Senior family $220.00

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Please make check payable to National Audubon Society.

Join the Audubon Society of Central Arkansas (ASCA) and you automatically become a member of the National Audubon Society. You will receive the bimonthly National Audubon magazine and the Stippe, published bimonthly by ASCA. It is important for new members to join through ASCA, so a portion of your dues supports local activities.

To join, complete the coupon and mail with check to Barry Han, ASCA Treasurer, 3900 Doral Dr., Little Rock, AR 72212, Send check or money order to ASCA at 500 East 1st Street, Suite 404, Boulder, CO 80303-1001, or to Barry Han, so you won’t miss the Stippe or the Nebraska Flyway Update.