CALENDAR OF EVENTS
October: Fall bare blown at Lake Waukeela State Park. Reservations are being taken. Call James Wilborn at 767-9366.
October 7, Sat, 8-9 am: ASCA field trip to Sullivan's Island on the Arkansas River. Contact Lyndal York at 666-2192 or 696-5591.
October 8, Sun, 7-7:30 pm: Owl Prowl at PMSP Arboretum parking lot on Pinneacle Valley Road. Call 696-5591.
October 8, Mon, 4-9 pm: BP Exploration and viewing assistance will be provided by the Central Arkansas Astronomical Society. Call PMSP at 696-5591.
October 12, Thu, 7-7 pm: ASCA monthly meeting. Douglas Zolliker will talk about the proposed land swap in the Ouachita National Forest. For more information, contact Rob Doster at 228-3587.
October 13-15, Fri-Sun: Arkansas Audubon Society fall meeting at Fort Smith. Contact Barry Haas at 225-5596.
October 21, Sat, 8-9 am: Field trip for beginning birders. Meet at Pinneacle Mountain State Park. Call Mel White at 666-2192 or Barry Haas at 225-5596 for more information.
October 21-22, Sat-Sun: Ozark Heritage Weekend at Devil's Den State Park. Programs focus on pioneer history of Lee Creek Valley and the Civilian Conservation Corps. Call 701-3325.
October 28, Sat, 7-8:30 pm: Owl Prowl at PMSP Arboretum parking lot on Pinneacle Valley Road. Call 696-5591.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!
ALEXANDER, Mrs. Robert Barry, Anthony Hill, Teddy Gloyd, Brenda E. Reed, Kathryn Tishan.
AVSTEIN, Jim Haveron
BENTON, Dean Gail, Ms. V. Maynard, Mrs. J. H. Carter, Carrie Rogers Ms. Katherine L. Vogel.
CAROT, Ms. C. J. Thornton, Mrs. James F. Webber.
CARLISLE, Niel Rice
DIETZ, William John
DEVALLS BLUFF, Mrs. Charlotte S. Lee
HAZEN, Warren K. Brown
HENSLEY, Ms. Joan Howard
JACKSONVILLE: Mrs. Ada Adams, Robinson Family, Mrs. Letch L. Lorder, Larry J. Woodard
LONGO, Mrs. Woody Diemick
MASONVILLE: Oral Y. Dooner, Sherrl L. Wood
MAHOMELLE: A. Noyes, Myrons, Kevin Alley
TWIN: NORTHEAST LITTLE ROCK: Mr. Bob Brown, Mildred E. Carpenter, Mary Jane экс, Kirk Goss, Mr. Rob Hancock, Mr. John Hechtor, Mrs. Helen Jackeway, C. Jolly, Nancy Levy, Ann McAffair, Dave Pindimer, O.H. Pindimer, Nola M. Shoak, Mclain Stoll, Mrs. James Ward, R.A. Winding, Dr. R. Windy.
ROLAND, Ms. Floy Dugdale
SHERWOOD: Consierthe Rynan

HOTLINES
ASCA Rare Bird Alert: 793-8583. Call to know what birds have been sighted and where, or 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 to you.

Call to Action--ENDEMIC SPECIES ACT THREATENED
Legislation has been introduced in both the U.S. House and Senate to dramatically reduce the protections given to endangered species. The Senate bill, S. 708, would eliminate protection of habitat for endangered species after a finding that the establishment or implementation of the ESA of the recovery of species. HB 2275 in the House is essentially a repeal of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) protections. The House bill would allow the Secretary of Interior to choose virtual extinction of a species by protecting it only from direct killing.
Recent studies by both the National Academy of Sciences and the Ecological Society of America conclude that the ESA should be strengthened, not weakened. Defenders of Wildlife, in analyzing the House bill, described it as creating "a costly entitlement for polluters, real estate speculators and bad land speculators." Who gains the most from ESA, humans or other living species? An argument can be made that 708 does not. It will result in the extinction of species. Who gains the most from ESA, humans or other living species? An argument can be made that 708 does not. It will result in the extinction of species. For the benefit of people, not species, the Act must be strengthened.

Congressional Reference Service: 220-177-227. To learn the current status of any Federal bill, call between 9:00 am and 6:00 pm. Be sure to have the bill's number or official title.

SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES

AUDUBON SOCIETY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS
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ASCA Fell Field Trips
Offer Diverse Look at Fall Migrants' Habitats
Sullivan's Island
Saturday, Oct. 7, 8 am: Field trip to Sullivan's Island, a peninsula (not really an island on the Arkansas River that is the proposed site of a future nature park. Excellent example of habitats including open ground, marshes and edges. The site is on the National Register of Historic Places. For more information, call Jim White at 666-2192 or 696-5591.

Special field trip for beginners: Introduction to Winter Birds
Saturday, Oct. 21, 8-10 am: Are you reluctant to come to ASCA field trips because you think you don't know birds well enough? We've got just the trip for you! All our trips, of course, are guided and expert birders are happy to answer questions and point out species. But here's a trip especially for those just starting birdwatching. We'll look for woodpeckers, "snowbirds" (junco), finches and some of those containing sparrows. We'll explore Chaffinch Mallard for ducks and, if we're lucky, a Bald Eagle. Meet at the West Monument rock parking at Pinneacle Mountain State Park at 8:30 am for a half-hour of easy walking. For information, call Mel White at 666-8786 or Barry Haas at 225-5596.

Continued on page 2

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
Due to prior commitments, the next Newsletter is due up to November 1. This deadline is for the next issue only. If you have questions, please contact Barry Haas at 225-5596 or 696-2775, or Barry Haas at 225-5596. Thank you for your support during this busy holiday season. Please write to all for a happy Thanksgiving holiday.
ASCA FUNDRAISE A BARGAIN AT ANY PRICE

How many of you know what the Entertainment '96 coupon books are? They contain hundreds of 2-for-1 offers at restaurants from fancy to fast food, travel discounts, entertainment events such as the Ark Repertory Theater and Wildwood, and most other discount commodities. Entertainment '96 coupon books will be available from ASCA in early October when they come out. And, as a bonus, if you order one we can throw in an Entertainment '95 coupon book for free (while supplies last). The $5 book is good from now until November 30, 1996. This is a new fundraiser for ASCA, so please support us if you will be buying one of the Entertainment '96 coupon books: Call Barry Harris (225-5096) for more information or to place an order. We will also have the $6 books available at the October and November ASCA regular meetings.

---ASCIA Fall Field Trips continued from page 1---
Halsey Fish Hatchery and Arkadelphia Oxidation Ponds Saturday, November 11, 17:30 a.m. Trip to Halsey Fish Hatchery near Lake Hamilton and Arkadelphia oxidation ponds. Objective: ducks, egrets, shore birds and whatever else shows up. Bring lunch and beverages of your choice. Meet at the commuter parking lot, southwest corner of 4100 and Shackelford Rd. (entrance of Shackelford's) leader Barry Harris (225-5096).

ANNUAL EAGLE TOUR TO HOLLLA BEND NWR

ASCA has scheduled its annual trip to Holla Bend National Wildlife Refuge near Dardanelle on Saturday January 13. Spotting normally seen on the trip include bald eagles, snow and Canada geese, wild turkey, assorted duck species and many other common wintering species. Deer and other wildlife are also commonly seen during the refuge tour. This is a great trip for all ages with a maximum of 60 people making the trip in one group. The annual January Holla Bend excursion is a great opportunity to get out of the house in the dead of winter and see some terrific birds with other enthusiasts.

Last year's Holla Bend trip led to a very rare kind of wildlife event. One of the cars trailing the bus headed east toward Petit Jean mountain for the trip home. Shortly after departing the Holla Bend refuge they spotted what turned out to be an extremely rare rose-footed falconer, an Arkansas first. The falconer was fast hypnotized by the national market demand. A number of birders added this rare find to their life lists over the next few days before the falconry disappeared.

Mark your calendar now for January 13. The December Snipe will have more details about the trip. If you want to reserve a seat on the bus, contact Barry Harris (225-5096).

---ROUND-ABOUT REPRINT GOES FULL-CIRCLE OF RED-DYED HUMMER NECKTAR---
From the Chat, newsletter from the Audubon Society of Corvallis, OR.

Tests show red hummingbird has bad effects on humans.
The Arkansas Valley Audubon Society reports that the San Diego Zoo has tested hummingbird nectar containing red food coloring. The results showed that birds that ingested nectar containing red dye produced egg shells that would not open or babies that were blind and deformed.

Though small amounts of red coloring probably will not hurt people, the large quantity that hummingbirds consume compared with their small body weight has devastating effects. Red-colored nectar is not necessary to attract hummingbirds. They are attracted by the color of the feeder itself--natural nectar is clear.

Use boiling water when mixing nectar and always use a clean feed. One cup of sugar to a quart of water is the suggested mixture. Better yet, grow plants that attract hummingbirds naturally.

---Boulder County Audubon Society---

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Indicate the Membership You Prefer (Includes Audubon Magazine)

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CITY/STATE/ZIP

Local Chapter: Audubon Society of Central Arkansas, NAS 8B-50

APPLICATION FORl MEMBERSHIP

Intro (New Members Only), $20
| Student | $20 |
| Family | $38 |
| Sustaining | $50 |

PHONE

ADDRESS

Join the Audubon Society of Central Arkansas and you automatically become a member of the National Audubon Society (NAS). You will receive the bimonthly Audubon Magazine and a bimonthly ASCA newsletter, the Snipe. It is important for new members to join through ASCA, as a portion of your dues supports Audubon's work.

To join, complete the application and mail with check made out to NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY, c/o Barry Harris, ASCA Treasurer, 3900 Donal Dr., Little Rock, AR 72212-2092. Send change of address to both National Audubon Society, P.O. Box 51001, Boulder, CO 80322-1001, and to Barry Harris, so you will not miss another Snipe or Magazine.
BIRDERS RACING TO LENGTHEN LISTS
SNARE CRITICISM

Item: Birders flock to Southport Island, Ontario, to view winter owls. Unfortunately, some of the birders trespass, break limbs to get better pictures, use camera flashes at close range, and even grab owls for hand-held shots. Local naturalists and landowners are infuriated. They urge birders to stay away.

Item: When a national organization surveys its members, nearly half of the respondents say that they would knowingly trespass on federal land to add the endangered Kirtland's Warbler to their life list, even though the species' only remaining breeding area is strictly off-limits to unauthorized entry.

Item: Birders have not had an Fledged Trogon ever known to have nested in the United States but now look up and Band Arizona's Ramsey Canyon, shooting to each other, playing tumbled calls at full volume, and leaving the trails to chase the birds. The harmed trogons move from the area. When they return weeks later to resume nesting, it is late in the season and the offspring don't survive.

Wait a minute, fellow birders. Have we turned birding into a trivial pursuit? Is the primary objective to add to one's life list, state list, month list, day list, or hour list-and damn the cost? Has birding become a carnival freak show in which the only bird that matters is the bizarre rarity or the vagrant thousand miles from its normal range?

Don't get me wrong. I enjoy a good find as much as any birder. The Fork-tailed Flycatcher that my wife and I spotted in Hamlin, NY, was not only a first for our area, but a highlight of my birding career. I have nothing against keeping lists, and I recognize the value of finding and observing many species as possible.

But what's happening to the more commonplace birds that should be there? That, I submit, is the crucial issue that we all should confront.

We all bemoan the decline of montane migrants. We argue for habitat preservation. But without hard data, those arguments fall on deaf ears. Yet how many of the birders who travel hundreds of miles to see a rarity are willing to devote equal energy to breeding bird surveys and studies of our more commonplace but declining songbirds? Are birding organizations doing all they can to enlist part-time amateur birders in meaningful projects—projects that might help us to understand what is happening to all our birds as habitat disappears?

This past spring, for example, I participated in a Nature Conservancy study aimed at identifying and preserving key migration stopover points along the south shore of Lake Ontario. It meant spending some mornings in areas that weren't as exciting as my favorite spots—but I was more than happy to do it.

I don't want birders to stop celebrating the rare and unusual, but we should strike a balance. We should not neglect the needs of birds and the rights of people. We should find more meaningful things to do than simply adding species to our personal life lists. We should stop fiddling while Rome burns. In the end, it will benefit all of our birds—the rare, the bizarre, and the commonplace species.

—Bob Marotte, reprinted from the "Living Bird" Vol. 12, No. 4.

October Program:
Ouachita National Forest
Proposed Land Swap

Thursday, October 12, 7:00 pm
Douglas Zoller with the Arkansas Field Office of the Nature Conservancy will present the findings of their Ecological Assessment of the proposed land swap between Weyerhaeuser Company and the Ouachita National Forest. The proposed swap involves land, primarily in the Ouachita Mountains, in both Oklahoma and Arkansas with Weyerhaeuser receiving approximately 48,000 acres and the U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service receiving approximately 150,000 acres.

ASC meets at 7:00 pm at the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission on Natural Resources Drive in Little Rock the second Thursday of each month. Members and guests are always welcome.

From the Tail-lure File...
Snoozing with Snakes and Sharp Talons

From Bird Watcher's Digest, September issue:

A note, with an appropriate picture, in a local newspaper illustrates just how aggressive a hungry hawk can be:

Bill Gustafson, a 17-year old hiker, was taking a snooze on the banks of the Flathead River in Montana, on July 5, 1995, when a hawk stopped by. While he slept, a juvenile snake apparently crawled up onto his chest to hawk him as well. Unfortunately for snake and hiker, the hawk noticed and made its move. Bill woke to see the hawk coming straight at him, and before he could react, it struck, taking the snake and flying off.

The operation was anything but delicate, however, as the photograph of the scars on his chest and belly demonstrated. Fishermen who saw the event rushed to his aid. The wounds proved to be nasty but superficial. In the excitement, no one noted the species of hawk was involved.
ANNUAL BIRDSEED SALE
CO-SPONSORED BY
AUDUBON SOCIETY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS
AND ARKANSAS WILDLIFE FEDERATION

Proceeds support environmental education and conservation activities through the year. The sale location will be the same as last year at the Arkansas Wildlife Federation office, 7509 Cantrell Road (south side of Tanglewood Shopping Center, Cantrell & Mississippi), Room 104, Little Rock.

Primary sale hours will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. one Saturday each month as follows: November 4 and December 2, 1995; January 6 and February 3, 1996.

Mark these dates on your calendar now so you can restock your bird feeding supplies each month.
Sale items will once again include 25# and 50# bags of black-oil sunflower seed, wild birdseed, niger seed (for goldfinches and pine siskins), the world’s best suet cakes (made right here in Arkansas by a birder who cares), feeders of many sizes and styles, field guides, and many other items too numerous to list.

We will be staffed to make the majority of our birdseed sales on the four Saturdays listed above. If you need bird feeding supplies before our first Saturday sale day, November 4, call the AWF office before noon at 663-7255 Monday-Friday. Also, in the event that you cannot come in on one or more of the scheduled Saturday sale days from November through February and you need some of the bird feeding supplies, call the AWF office.

Over the years, our primary birdseed has remained black-oil sunflower seeds. The reason is simple—research has shown birds prefer the black-oil seed two to one over the larger, striped sunflower seed. Sunflower seeds of all kinds are generally preferred to corn, millet or other choices by a large variety of birds. The black-oil sunflower seeds are also an excellent source of energy and nourishment for a large number of bird species. The oil within the seed meal provides a ready source of energy for birds. So the birds know what they like, and we know it is good for them as well!

THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT