Help spread the word about the Nongame Preservation Program. Tell your friends and neighbors how important it is. And when the time comes, make your contribution one that will really count!

For more information on this program, call the Natural Heritage Commission at 371-1706, or write Nongame Preservation Program, Suite 500, Continental Building, Main and Markham Streets, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201.

**Bird News**

The hawk watch held September 24 at Pinnacle Visitor Center Overlook was a successful one, with more than 300 Broad-winged Hawks passing by in several flocks. Fifteen other hawks were also seen. We were pleased that members of the Pine Bluff Two Rivers Audubon Society came to the watch.

We had perfect fall weather for the October 15 field trip to Faulkner Lake. Sam Slagle's screech-owl tape called up a Black-throated Green Warbler, a Nashville, the first White-throat of the season, and...a Screech Owl. Other birds included 10 Wood Ducks, Great Blue Herons, and a Yellow-billed Cuckoo. At the Lonoke Fish ponds, birds seen included a Stilt Sandpiper (late because of a broken leg), Lesser Yellowlegs (outnumbering all other shorebirds), Shoveler, Pintail, Wigeon, Redhead, Blue-winged Teal and Mallard. Two Double-crested Cormorants were found perched on the same dead tree where four Anhingas were seen two weeks earlier. Most of the Cattle Egrets had left, along with the other white herons, but there were good numbers of Long- and Short-billed Dowitchers, Snipe, Greater Yellowlegs, and Pectorals. One Wilson’s Phalarope was seen, and the Avocet was still at Anderson’s.

On the night of October 18, Pinnacle State Park sponsored an Owl Prowl along Kingfisher Trail. Screech, Great Horned and Barred Owls were heard; the Barreds were calling back and forth to each other.

Reports of White Pelicans: Evelyn Penick saw a flock settle down for the night on the Arkansas River September 13; Terry Butler saw 200 October 6; and Tom Wittenberg saw a flock of 300 fly over Park Plaza October 13.

The Halbergs were eating lunch at home August 31, looked out their window and saw a Peregrine Falcon swoop by four times. In mid-September an injured Peregrine was found in St. Francis County along the Mississippi River levee; it was banded on both legs, but no word yet on where the bird came from. Away from our area, an attempt to restore Peregrines to Sequoia National Park in California turned into a picnic for Golden Eagles, which caught and ate two of three released fledgling falcons. The third was recaptured.

Cummins Ratcliffe of Nashville in southwest Arkansas reported to the Halbergs that 300 Scissor-tailed Flycatchers roosted in one tree near his home on September 27. They estimated a 60-40 percentage of young to adult birds.
President’s Note
We’ve had a lot of activity in our chapter this past month. Many of us traveled to Jonesboro for the state Audubon fall meeting. We were treated to field trips, programs, and good company. Ed Pemberton, formerly of Little Rock, visited from the regional office in Manhattan, Kansas. I saw my first adult Bald Eagle of the season. Through the scope we watched it dive for fish and eat. Thank you, Jonesboro and President Ellen Neaville for a great meeting.

There is so much to talk about with you, so mark your calendar for our potluck Christmas meeting, December 8, 6 p.m., at Camp Aldersgate. We’ll have a blazing fire, door prize drawings, a special film from Arkansas State Parks and members’ slides to entertain you.

This will be my last meeting as president. Please join us for food, fun, and meet the nominating committee’s choice for your new president, Rusty Baldwin.

Chris Granger

Remaining films in the Audubon Wildlife Film series (note change in the November film):

Nov. 18, Norm Wakeman: “Edge of the Pacific”
March 16, Jon Panos: “The Okavango”

All films are at 7:45 p.m. at the UA Med Center auditorium. A parking lot is available to us on film nights; to reach it, go south on Hooper Drive to the “T” intersection, turn right and then right again immediately. The lot is on the right.

If you would like to attend a dinner with the speaker at 5:30 p.m., the night of the film, call Henry Halberg at 663-1812 to let him know you’re coming.

Winners of two free tickets for next year’s films are Jan Meyer of Little Rock and Marguerite Fryer of North Little Rock.

Attractive patches for both ASCA (Red-headed Woodpecker) and the state society (Bluebird) are available from Roberta Crabtree. Call her at 753-1723 for information. Both patches are $3 by mail.

ASCA members have busy schedules:
Anita Thurmond traveled to Heber Springs to present a program on spiders to the Audubon chapter there.
Anita, Chris Granger and Florence Mallard present slide programs on birds for local community groups whenever we get a request for same.

Jim Peterson is now assistant manager for the Expedition Institute at Sharon Audubon Center in Connecticut.

Jane Gulley, Arkansas’ “Eagle Lady”, has received another honor. In September she was presented an Interior Department Award for Public Service at ceremonies in Washington. The award recognized Jane’s “personal commitment in education of the public concerning eagles, other raptors and the need for protection of these birds”. Brava, Jane; we’re proud of you!

The society is very grateful for a gift from Mr. and Mrs. John Strachan in memory of Ian Field. The money will be placed in the Special Education Fund.

The Halbergs received a nice thank-you note from Ty and Julie Hotchkiss, who presented the first wildlife film here, for the hospitality they enjoyed while in Little Rock. The Hotchkisses complimented the facilities, the audience, and film chairperson Jeanne Jackson for her organizational ability.

Suzanne Caldwell has a “Grandma” Purple Martin house, in excellent condition, for sale for $50. Contact her at 758-8931.

Former ace Little Rock birder Bruce Tedford gave a special program at Pinnacle August 11 that drew more than 60 persons. Bruce has a four-year fellowship at LSU to work on his PhD, which will involve studying the Wedge-rumped Storm-petrel. His slide program gave us an excellent tour of the Galapagos.

At the September meeting, Anita Thurmond showed slides of a trip her family made out west, and Edith Huey showed slides of the trip she and Florence Mallard made to Alaska. Both programs made the rest of us envious. Anita’s slides focused on Native American dwellings, while Edith showed us lots of beautiful Alaskan wildflowers.

Neil and Julie Curry returned from their honey-moon to find a pair of Gray Foxes living in their yard. By the way, if you’re interested in working as a volunteer at Pinnacle Mountain State Park, call Neil at 868-5806.

Everyone looks forward to the ASCA Beginner Bird Course, which we hold every year in the early spring. (Everyone except maybe Anita, who has to plan it...and she probably does too.) Next year the course will be March 9-10 at Pinnacle State Park. We’ll have more details in the next Snipe, but mark your calendar now if you’d like to get started birding. We’ll talk about bird classification, binocular use, field guides, birding techniques, bird sounds, and anything else you want to know about.
Jeanne Jackson will be teaching a course in Environmental Sociology (Sociology 3392) at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in the spring semester of 1984. This course will be of interest to ASCA members since Jeanne will emphasize Arkansans’ environmental problems. Class will be Tuesday and Thursday from 10:50 a.m. to 12:05 p.m. For more information call 569-3173 or 663-9201.

At the December meeting at Aldersgate (6 p.m. on December 8) we will vote on the nominating committee’s choices for new officers and board members. Officers will serve two-year terms; board members are elected for one year. Nominations will also be accepted from the general membership. The committee’s nominations are:

- President: Rusty Baldwin
- Vice-president: Jeanne Jackson
- Secretary: Anne Crary
- Treasurer: Henry Halberg
- Board members: Neil Curry, Jane Gulley, Helen Holmes, Dr. Joe Norton, Lucy Rhodes, Dr. C. David Williams, Tom Wittenberg.

**Conservation**

The issue of wilderness in Arkansas is far from resolved. Congressman Ed Bethune’s bill (HR2917), which would protect eleven areas and is endorsed by the state Conservation Coalition, is in subcommittee and will probably not come out until a bill is introduced in the Senate. From the upper chamber we have heard talk, but seen no action. Senator Bumpers may be waiting on Senator Pryor; Senator Pryor is running for re-election next year.

Congressman Anthony, whose family has made a fortune in the timber business, has introduced a bill (HR2452), that would exclude proposed areas near Little Pock (Flatside) and Russellville (East Fork). Special interest groups are pushing for “compromise”, but in fact Bethune’s bill is itself a compromise; no more areas need to be sacrificed to the anti-wilderness forces. Six percent of the publicly owned national forest area in Arkansas is not too much to ask.

We need to politely but firmly let our senators know how important the wilderness issue is for the future of Arkansas. An opportunity like this, to protect a small part of our national heritage, will never come again. All eleven proposed areas are worth saving, and a Senate bill needs to be introduced to that effect. Please, if you haven’t contacted Senators Bumpers and Pryor and asked them to support Congressman Bethune’s bill, do it now! You can be assured that anti-wilderness forces are making their voices heard; we must not let them win.

James Watt is (or will soon be gone, but anyone who expects the direction of the Interior Department to change radically is fooling himself. William Clark, Ronald Reagan’s nominee to head the department, may be less abrasive than Watt, but the ideals of the Reagan Administration will still hold sway: opening more public land to oil, gas, and mining development; few (if any) new wilderness and park areas; less protection for endangered species; weakened regulations concerning acid rain and pollution.

Clark has no experience at all that will assist him in making decisions affecting millions of acres of land that belong to all of us. If we care about this country’s resources (and we do or we wouldn’t belong to Audubon), we must not lessen our vigilance.

Conservationists in Pine Bluff deserve our support as they work to get answers to their questions about the proposed toxic waste disposal facility at the Pine Bluff Arsenal. Parts of the arsenal grounds are contaminated with a veritable smorgasbord of poisons, and the need for some kind of disposal is clear. The question is: will the Army’s cure be any better than the disease? Watch the newspapers for possible future public hearings on this matter.

**New Members**

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<td>Christine Collins</td>
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<td>Doug’s To Earth Landscape</td>
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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 *Snipe*, published from time to time by ASCA. It is important for new members to join through ASCA, so a portion of your dues support local activities.

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

Check the Membership You Desire (includes Audubon Magazine)

| Individual | $25.00 | Family | $20.00 per year | Sustaining | $50.00 per year | Student | $15.00 per year |

Name (Please Print): ____________________________

Address: ____________________________

City: ____________________________ State: __ Zip: ______

Your NAS membership number (renewals only) __________

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

Please make check payable to National Audubon Society.

To join, complete the coupon and mail to Henry Halberg, ASCA Treasurer, 5809 No. Country Club, Little Rock, AR 72207. Renewals should be sent to National Audubon Society, Membership Data Center, P.O. Box 2667, Boulder, Colorado 80321. Send change-of-address notification to the national membership center and Henry Halberg so you won’t miss Audubon or the Snipe.

SRC-7
Sunday, December 4, 2 p.m.: Planning meeting for the Little Rock (compiler, Perk Floyd) and Lonoke (compiler, Fred Burnside) Christmas Bird Counts, at Perk’s house at Lakeside Country Club. We need all the help we can get on these counts. Directions: Go south on the Pine Bluff Highway to Woodson Lateral Road (Exit 12), turn right (west) on Woodson and drive one mile. Turn left into the Lakeside Country Club. Stop and register at the clubhouse. Follow the blacktop over the dam to the end of the pavement, then left on the gravel road. Perk’s house is second on the right. Call 888-4252 for information about the meeting or the counts.

Thursday, December 8, 6 p.m.: The Society’s annual Christmas potluck dinner meeting, at Aldergate camp. Bring a potluck dish, a plate, silverware, and a few of your best slides for the members’ slide show. Society will furnish drinks. We’ll show a film about Arkansas state parks, and there will be door prizes. Officers will be elected, and a good time will be had by all. Go west on 12th Street past the Baptist Hospital to Aldergate Road, turn left, go a quarter-mile or so, turn right into the camp.

Saturday, December 17: Little Rock Christmas Count. Let’s get 90 species!

Sunday, December 18: Lonoke Christmas Count. Let’s get 100 species!

Saturday, Dec. 31: White River Refuge Christmas count. If you can help, call Keith Sutton at 664-4780 or 562-3722.

OFFICERS, COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS, AND DIRECTORS

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President: Chris Granger, 3 Holly Springs Ct, LR 72212, 327-0258  
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Secretary: Barbara Shultz, 11 Glenridge, LR 72207, 225-2233  
Treasurer: Henry N. Halberg, 8689 N. Country Club, LR 72227, 663-1812  
Editor: Mel White, 311 S. Cedar, LR 72205, 664-8786  
Associate Editor: Jean Ann Williams, 1117 W. 32nd, NLR 72118, 753-5961

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Joyce Godfrey, 34 Southmont Dr, LR 72209, 905-7716  
Fred C. Greenwood, Rt 3 Box 33A, LR 72211, 841-4322  
Sally Hays, 50 Kingsbridge Way, LR 72212  
Florence Mallard, 2024 Dalewood, LR 72207, 663-8802  
William M. Shepherd, Jr, 2125 S. Broadway, LR 72206, 375-3918

SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN  
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Brend Anthony, 213 CHO1, Washington, D.C. 20515, (202) 224-3772; P.O. Box 2021, El Dorado, FOB, Pine Bluff  
Ed Bethune, 1535 LA01, Washington, D.C. 20515, (202) 224-2506; 1527 FOB, LR (378-5941); New County Bldg, Searcy  
John Paul Hammerschmidt, 2207 RH01, Washington, D.C. 20515, (202) 225-4301; 424 P.O., Fayetteville; 209 Main P.O., Ft. Smith, FOB Hot Springs

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