DAYTON AUDUBON SOCIETY

Excerpts From

THE YELLOW WARBLER

The Newsletter of the Dayton Audubon Society

February/March 1997

Volume 59 - No. 1

Photo by Jim Simpson

Published eight times per year by the Dayton Audubon Society, 1375 E. Siebenthaler Ave., Dayton, OH 45414-5398

SEASONAL SIGHTINGS

Summer/Fall 1996

By John A. Shrader and Charlotte Mathena

Observers: Betty Berry (BB), Charlie Berry (CB), Cathy Cunagin(CC), Dave Dister (DD), Jon Dunn (JD), Larry Gara (LG), Bob Gilbert (BG), Lee Hall (LH), Jim Hickman (JHi), Ned Keller (NK),Tiffany Mercer Klink (TMK), Tim Little (TL), Charlotte Mathena(CM), Jennifer Monahan (JM), Dave Nolin (DN), Mark Nunery (MN),Doug Overacker (DO), John Shrader (JS), Karen Shrader (KS), SueTackett (ST), DAS Field Trip Participants (DAS FT), Many Observers (MOb).

Now that 1997 has arrived, the snow is flying again and the cold weather is back, and 1996 is starting to seem like a distant memory! However, the last half of 1996 is still worth discussing, at least in terms of bird sightings, since as you will note below, the Greater Miami Valley area had it's share of "good" birds! Thanks to everyone who reported their sightings.

Formerly felt to be accidental in our area, a **Red-throated Loon** was at Caesar Creek State Park (CCL) on 10/29. Another (or the same?) was also there 11/29 (JHi,JM,CM). Yet another, was at CJ Brown 11/13-14 (DO). This species has now been found in our area at least five times over the last 5 years. Also having an accidental status in Ohio, a **Pacific Loon** was reported there 11/24-26 (JHi,NK). As in past years, an **Eared Grebe** was in the vicinity of the dam/overlook at CJ Brown Reservoir (CJBr) on 11/3 (DO,ST).

An immature **Little Blue Heron** was found at Englewood MetroPark (EngMP) on 7/15 (BB,CB). Another immature was at Grand Lake St. Mary's Fish Hatchery (GLSM) on 7/27. A **Snowy Egret** stopped at EngMP on 8/24 (BB,CB). A number of **Least Bitterns** and **Common Moorhens** spent the summer breeding in the marsh (MOb) at Spring Valley Wildlife Area (SVWA).

Two **Black Vultures** were found at Whitewater S.P. on 11/10 (JS,KS,LH, DAS FT) and remained until at least 1/1/97 (JS,KS). Another was at Brukner Nature Center on 12/13 (CC). A **Northern Goshawk** flushed all the gulls and shorebirds present at GLSM on 10/15 (BB,CB). A nice kettle of 150-200 **Broad-winged Hawks** passed through our region right on time on 9/20 at Possum Creek MetroPark (MN). A fairly late **Osprey** was at EngMP on 11/2 (DD).

An immature **Peregrine Falcon** was flushing shorebirds from the mudflats at Gilmore Ponds (GilP) on 9/14 (JHi). A **Merlin** was observed at SVWA on 9/29 (TL).

Six **Oldsquaws** were at CCL on 11/27 (JD). A female **Surf Scoter** was on Eastwood Lake on 11/1 (JD). Two more were at Metzger Reservoir on 11/23 (DD).

Sandhill Cranes figured prominently in our avifauna throughout the period. Very unusual in the summer was one at SVWA on July 3 (JS,KS). By fall, we received a number of reports: Fifty were seen flying over I-70 near Springfield on 11/19 (DN), ten were on the ground at Cowan Lake on 11/22 (LG), seventy were flying over the Mercer Wildlife Refuge at Grand Lake St. Marys on 11/23 (DD), ten were over Patterson Blvd. near the Kettering Research Park on 11/26 (BG), and ten more were near Tipp City on 12/10 (CC).

Extremely rare in our area, an **American Avocet** was observed on 9/1 in Middletown in the Great Miami River immediately south of the SR122 bridge (TL). Mid-September produced several **American Golden-Plovers**, including one at GilP (DD), and three more along the Great Miami River in Middletown (TL). Two **Upland Sandpipers** were seen at the Dayton International Airport near the runways on 7/23 (JS,KS). A few more were at Area B WPAFB during August as usual. Three **Wilson's Phalaropes** were at GilP in mid-September (DD), along with a **Red Knot**. A **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** was on the beach at CJBr on 8/24 (DO). Another was near Lima on 8/25 at the Ferguson-Metzger Reservoir - by 9/8 12 were there(DD)! Several more were at GilP in mid-September (DD). Another area of good shorebird habitat this fall was at the north end of CJBr and eleven species of shorebirds were seen there on 10/20 including two **White-rumped Sandpipers** (DO,JS,KS,DAS FT). Two more White-

rumps were at GLSM the same day (CM).

Extremely rare inland away from Lake Erie was a first-year **Thayer's Gull** found at CJBr 11/9 (DO), which remained until at least 11/24. A good number of **Franklin's Gulls** were reported throughout the period. One was at CCL on 7/31-8/1. Another was there on 10/7-8, and by 10/23-24, up to 16 were present (LG). The last report was 11/1 (LG) when two were found there. Yet another stopped at CJBr on 10/13 (DO) - that bird was still present 10/20 to the delight of DAS Field Trip participants.

One report of a **Snowy Owl** was received. One was found sitting on a fence post the evening of 12/2, near West Milton (TMK) - it was not found again.

A definite movement of migrating warblers was noted on 9/18-19 in the Dayton area, with over ten species found. A **Connecticut Warbler** was at EngMP in late September and another on 10/7. Thirty **Snow Buntings** were on the causeway between Ferguson and Metzger Reservoirs on 11/23 (DD), and a single bird was on the beach at CCL on 11/27 (TL).

Further afield, were two **White-fronted Geese** and one **Glossy Ibis** at Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area on 11/9, and by late November, both **Long-eared and Short-eared Owls** were observed there as well. A very popular **Long-billed Murrelet (Asian Marbled Murrelet - Brachyramphus marmoratus perdix)** was at Beaver Creek Reservoir 11/12-14, and was seen by a number of area birders.

EARTH WRITINGS WALK

Aullwood Audubon Center

Sunday, April 20, 1997

2:30-4:00

How about a different kind of nature walk to celebrate Earth Day this year?

The Dayton Audubon Society and Aullwood will co-sponsor an Earth Writings Walk on Sunday, April 20 from 2:30 to 4:00 at the Aullwood Audubon Center.

DAS member and former National Audubon Ecology Camp Director Tom Schaefer will lead attendees on a short walk, but instead of simply identifying birds and flowers, participants will stop now and then to read from the likes of Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost, Wendell Barry, Paul Lawrence Dunbar, Marge Piercy, Edward Abbey, and Annie Dillard.

This will be a special opportunity to rediscover how poetry and other nature writing can enhance our connectedness to the Earth and its many "people". Bring along your notebook, because participants will stop along the way to encourage the muse within, and create some original writing of their own. Bring a favorite piece of nature literature to share, too, if you'd like.

This walk is for anybody who senses the wonder of nature, and appreciates the power of good words. Call Tom Schaefer (937-857- 9308) for more information.

DAS SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Dayton Audubon Society is deeply committed to education and, in part, shows that commitment by offering scholarships annually to individuals who can make a difference in our community.

Perhaps you know someone who might benefit from the DAS mission. Read on and, if you can, help us find some deserving "scholars".

Summer Camp Scholarships

National Audubon has offered summer camps for "adult leaders" since the 1930s. The original idea, begun at the Maine Camp, was to get teachers so excited about natural history that they would go back and "infect" their kids wirh enthusiasm.

Summer ecology workshops for adults are now being offered in the Wind River Mountains of Wyoming, the woodland community of Connecticut, and the coast of Maine. Also, a camp for young folk, ages 10 through 14, is offered every summer in Maine.

While camps and workshops are open to everyone these days, they are still especially popular with teachers. If you know of a dynamic elementary or secondary teacher, just imagine what a camp might do for them!

Turning a student on to science and the natural world is a wonderful thing. Help DAS make that connection by finding the right teacher or the right child to send to camp next summer. These camps are top quality.

The Dively Scholarship

Since 1982, DAS has offered tuition help to college students through the Dively Scholarship Program,

originally endowed in memory of DAS member Dick Dively. Though we cannot offer a lot of money, the Dively Scholarship has helped both undergraduate and graduate students reach academic goals.

The Dively Scholarships are awarded to students who's course of study will lead them to fields that further the cause of environmentalism and conservation. Dively scholarship recipients are not restricted to scientific fields; many environmental connections, such as environmental law, are possible.

What Can You Do?

Help us find scholarship candidates. Talk to interested people or people you think ought to be interested. Spread the word!

To recommend candidates, apply for scholarships, or receive further information on the Camp or Dively Scholarships, please call DAS Scholarship Chair Tom Schaefer at 513-857-9308.

TIME AND TALENTS

The Dayton Audubon Society is an organization of volunteers committed to education, the natural sciences, and an environmental ethic.

Help and new ideas from the ranks of the membership are needed in order for the organization to reach its goals.

If you would like to help in any of the capacities listed below, let us know. Your involvement will be welcome.

I would like to help with:

- Armchair Activist (Write to officials on issues)
- Birdathon
- Conservation Committee
- Education Committee
- Field Trips
- Membership Committee
- Publicity
- *Yellow Warbler*
- Other

Send your choice with your name and phone number to Dayton Audubon Society, 1375 E. Siebenthaler Ave., Dayton, Ohio 45414-5398; or call DAS President Mike Coogan at (937)439-4828

DAYTON AUDUBON SOCIETY

Excerpts From

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April 1997

Volume 59 - No. 2

Photo by Jim Simpson

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1997 DAS BIRDATHON

Spring is here, the migrants are returning, and it's time to start thinking about the name for your 1997 Birdathon team, and about all the people you will ask for supporting pledges! If you were on a team last year, you will automatically be entered this year; we hope to add some new teams as well!

Don't forget to ask not only friends and family to support this great cause, but also professional community service people, service club members, folks at the gym, at the dry cleaner, at bird seed distributors, etc. Everyone has at least 5 people they can ask: yourself, spouse/parent/sibling, best friend, neighbor, co-worker. Try it!

The Birdathon is a nation-wide event in which local Audubon chapters send volunteers out into the woods and fields to count bird species. Pledges are collected from donors, either on a per- species basis or in a flat amount, and the money raised is used to benefit local and/or national environmental concerns. Last year, Dayton Audubon raised over $2,000 during this event.

Again this year, the proceeds of this annual fund-raiser will be divided between Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm, and the Beavercreek Wetlands Association. Your contributions will reach out into the community to educate children and adults, and preserve precious ecosystems in your area.

The 1997 Birdathon starts at 5:00 p.m., Friday April 25, and ends at 5:00 p.m. Saturday April 26. Birdathon teams are asked to meet after the count at the Patty Falls Shelter, Englewood Reserve, at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 26.

The annual **Birdathon Kick-Off** will be held this year on **Wednesday, April 23, at 7:30 p.m.** The location will again be Books & Co., in the Town and Country Shopping Center at the corner of Stroop Road and Far Hills Avenue in Kettering. Aullwood Education Coordinator Tom Hissong wil be on hand to show slides, play recorded bird songs, and display study skins. Join us there and get in the spirit!

You may pledge a per-species amount to one of the teams listed below, or donate a fixed amount. Please make checks payable to Dayton Audubon Society, 1375 E. Siebenthaler Avenue, Dayton, Ohio 45414-5398. For more information, call Judy Whitaker at 293- 1914.

TEAMS

Jay Birders - Jim Hill and John Howard

The Old Squaws - Charlotte Mathena and Sue Tackett

Aristoquacks - Barbara Keegan, Jennifer Monahan, and Judy Whitaker

Philanthropic Phalaropes - Jim Simpson and Mike Zimmerman

Wright State Rails - WSU Students

The Wild Berrys - Charlie and Betty Berry

Solitary Sandpipers - Mike Coogan and Mark Dillon

1996 CHRISTMAS COUNT RESULTS

The 1996 Christmas Bird Count was another successful event for Dayton Audubon. Fifty seven people participated, recording 10,278 birds of 68 species. Record high numbers of Pileated Woodpeckers (10) and Bluebirds (50) were recorded, and the 22 Belted Kingfishers tied the record high. We logged the second highest number of Ring-billed Gulls (614), and the numbers of Northern Mockingbirds (21) and American Crows (366) were the highest recorded in 25 years and 33 years, respectively.We also found a significantly high number of Field Sparrows (29), and the two Peregrine Falcons spotted downtown were a very rare treat for Christmas time. Thanks again to all who participated.

Pied-Billed Grebe	8	Northern Flicker	43
Great Blue Heron	53	Pileated Woodpecker	10
Canada Goose	1,288	Horned Lark	3
Wood Duck	3	Blue Jay	21
Green-Winged Teal	9	American Crow	366
American Black Duck	19	Carolina Chickadee	502
Mallard	1,185	Tufted Titmouse	140
Northern Pintail	2	White-Breasted Nuthatch	99
Gadwall	18	Brown Creeper	66

American Wigeon	2
Redhead	1
Common Goldeneye	3
Hooded Merganser	1
Black-Mallard Hybrid	1
Sharp-Shinned Hawk	1
Cooper's Hawk	5
Red-Tailed Hawk	41
American Kestrel	25
Peregrine Falcon	2
Northern Bobwhite	30
American Coot	80
Killdeer	7
Common Snipe	1
Ring-Billed Gull	614
Herring Gull	4
Rock Dove	362
Mourning Dove	467
Eastern Screech Owl	1
Great Horned Owl	6
Barred Owl	4
Belted Kingfisher	22
Carolina Wren	56
Winter Wren	3
Golden-Crowned Kinglet	30
Ruby-Crowned Kinglet	1
Eastern Bluebird	50
Hermit Thrush	2
American Robin	584
Northern Mockingbird	21
Cedar Waxwing	5
European Starling	1,596
Yellow-Rumped Warbler	2
Northern Cardinal	421
Rufous-Sided Towhee	5
American Tree Sparrow	80
Field Sparrow	29
Fox Sparrow	2
Song Sparrow	130
Swamp Sparrow	1
White-Throated Sparrow	177
Dark-Eyed Junco	370
Eastern Meadowlark	2
Common Grackle	1

Red-Bellied Woodpecker	47	House Finch	295
Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker	2	American Goldfinch	221
Downey Woodpecker	192	House Sparrow	423
Hairy Woodpecker	15		

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SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

If you are a regular reader of the *Yellow Warbler*, you have undoubtedly seen our regular winter call for potential recipients of Dayton Audubon scholarships. Whether for summer camps or for college costs, DAS has offered annual assistance to a few interested folks looking to expand their academic horizons in science and the humanities.

Last summer's *Charlie Breisch Scholarship* was awarded to Christine Simmons, a teacher in Beavercreek. Chris went to the Audubon Ecology Camp in Connecticut, and, upon her return, put plans in place for a land lab at her school. She was also interviewed by a *Dayton Daily News* writer for a piece in an upcoming *KidSense* issue about summer camps.

Last year, too, DAS helped David Reese of Kettering with his first year of tuition at the University of Florida in Gainesville, with the *Dick Dively Scholarship*. David is majoring in pre-veterinary medicine. Another *Dively* recipient, Ben Runkle of Oakwood, is completing his first year in environmental engineering at Princeton. Ben writes that his schedule is busy, and that he is active in the Environmental Action group on campus. He says that "Princeton seems to be overflowing with opportunities for someone who is environmentally conscious."

As a member of Dayton Audubon, you should know that you are helping to impact environmental educaton in the Miami Valley. Just this year, we have received twelve scholarship requests! Some of these candidates will go forward to make a difference, with a little help from Dayton Audubon.

Gifts to DAS's Projects and Memorials Fund, the source of our scholarship awards, are always welcome! The more investments we have, the more assistance we can offer. We - and you - are an important part of the difference!

OSU TELESCOPE WOULD TRAMPLE U. S. ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

The Ohio State University is again considering joining in the Mt. Graham telescope project in Arizona. This project will be so destructive to a Galapagos-like forest ecosystem on the summit of Mt. Graham (near Phoenix), that the University of Arizona had to spend millions lobbying and litigating to exempt it from all U. S. environmental laws, including the much-beleaguered Endangered Species Act. The project would fragment and destroy one-quarter of a 400-acre virgin spruce-fir forest where many unique plants and animals have evolved in what is virtually an island ecosystem, including 3 mammals, 3 flowers, 4 mollusks, and many arthropods.

Because Mt. Graham is profoundly sacred to several Indian Nations, UA has also spent millions

lobbying and litigating in attempts to evade cultural and religious protection laws.

Several other universities that were originally part of the project have abandoned Mt. Graham, due to poor visibility and bad weather, as well as the difficulties cited above. Currently, OSU and UA are the only U.S. entities remaining in the project (there are several foreign investors). Concerned citizens should write to OSU President Gordon Gee, 190 N. Oval Mall, Columbus, Ohio 43210, and ask him to withdraw from the Arizona telescope project. Continued participation would be bad both ethically and scientifically.

AN ENVIRONMENTAL LEGACY

A bequest of any size to Dayton Audubon can have a lasting effect on ecological concerns and environmental education in the Dayton area. We ask that you consider leaving a specific amount, a percentage of your estate, or the remainder of your estate after other bequests, to the Dayton Audubon Society.

For more specifics on this, or other information about gift planning, please phone Tom Schaefer, 937-857-9308, or write to Dayton Audubon Society, 1375 E. Siebenthaler Avenue, Dayton, Ohio 45414.

DAYTON AUDUBON SOCIETY

Excerpts From

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May 1997

Volume 59 - No. 3

Photo by Jim Simpson

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1997 BIRDATHON A SUCCESS

The 1997 Dayton Audubon Birdathon was once again an outstanding event. Although the final pledge figures are not yet in, the number of people participating was very high, the weather was great, and the enthusiasm was exhilarating.

Nine teams participated this year, including two new student groups. The **Kingfishers,** two young men from the Montgomery County Joint Vocational School, were doing their first bird watching ever, and still managed to rack up 59 species, (without even going to Spring Valley Wildlife Area!). We also had a contingent of 5th and 6th graders from Cox Elementary SChool, who dubbed themselves the **Vivacious Vireos.** These 10-15 kids, with their leader, teacher Cindy Beckman, even had t-shirts made for the occasion! They covered a lot of ground to rack up their totals, going as far afield as Fort Ancient to record the bird pictured on their shirts, a Solitary Vireo.

Once again, the **Jaybirders**, Jim Hill and John Howard, led all teams with 108 species sighted. They were closely followed by the **Oldsquaws**, Sue Tackett and Charlotte Mathena, who spotted 99. The cold

weather seemed to have kept some of the migrants farther south still, so the totals were, perhaps, a little lower than might be expected, but the teams all worked hard to get that pledge money.

Congratulations once again goes to all the participants, particularly Judy Whitaker, Birdathon Chair, for an exceptional job and great results.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Dayton Audubon Society congratulates **Paulette Larson,** the winner of our Charlie Breish Memorial Camp Scholarship for 1997. Paulette will attend the Audubon Camp in Greenwich, Connecticut, designed for teachers of environmental studies.

Ms. Larson teaches 2nd grade at Edison Elementary School on Broadway in Dayton. She serves on the school's Science Committee, has been co-chair of the Science Fair, participated in the Primary Science Curriculum Committee, and organized the Science Resource Room.

Paulette was one of 80 Ohio teachers who participated in a program of Environmental Science for Elementary Teachers in Wyoming last year. She has also been active in bringing science programs and speakers to the urban children in her school, and has been coordinating the effort to construct a land lab on the vacant lot next to the school.

Ms. Larson was one of four very deserving applicants for this year's scholarship. We congratulate her on her skill, devotion, and dedication to environmental education for young children, particularly in an urban setting. We are confident that her experience at the Connecticut camp will translate into wonderful programs and motivation for the students at Edison, and for the Greater Dayton area. Congratulations, Paulette!

NEW TAKINGS BILL INTRODUCED TO OHIO HOUSE

A new takings bill was recently introduced to the Ohio House. H.B. 294, sponsored by William Batchelder and 52 other representatives, is very similar to last year's bill, which was stopped in the Senate Rules committee at the end of the legislative year.

As before, the bill would require the Ohio Attorney General to prepare a summary of current case law related to regulatory takings - a government action that so restricts the use of private property as to constitute a denial of all economically viable use of a parcel. This summary would be distributed to all levels of government in the state.

Government agencies would then be required to complete an assessment of the takings implications of any action that "would probably" result in takings. Government actions are broadly interpreted to include health and safety regulations, fire codes, zoning, etc. Although H.B. 294 is very similar to the bill passed by the Ohio House last year, there are several important damaging additions:

- Although last year's bill did not make takings assessments public documents, H.B. 294 does. Public disclosure of the assessment could potentially undermine the bill's ostensible goal of avoiding unnecessary constitutional takings. In order for a takings analysis to be useful, the legal advice provided by agency lawyers must be frank and candid. If made a public document, it could be used to provide a "road map" for lawsuits against the agency.

- Last year's bill specifically exempted from assessments those government actions "specifically mandated by a Federal, State, or Local government authority". This meant that actions such as the Ohio EPA's enforcement of the Clean Water Act were not subject to assessment requirements because the Clean Water Act is a Federal mandate. H.B. 294, however, clarifies that such actions are exempted only "to the extent that the action does not result from from the exercise of legislative, executive, or administratine discretion." In other words, agencies would be discouraged from enforcing any more restrictive criteria than absolutely necessary.

- H.B. 294 includes a new provision which encourages government agencies to resolve takings disputes through either arbitration or mediation. Although this sounds very reasonable on the surface, arbitration and mediation would not weigh the merits of a takings claim based upon constitutional law or established legal precedents. Efforts would focus only on trying to reach a resolution. Takings claims that would never be successful in court would end up being settled out of court, wasting millions of tax dollars. Hearings will begin in the Ohio House State Government Committee.

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June/July 1997

Volume 59 - No. 4

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Dayton Audubon Society
ANNUAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 1997, 7:00 P.M.
Cox Arboretum, 6733 Springboro Pike

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS
for the 1997-1998 Fiscal Year

The following slate will be presented by the nominating committee:

Tom Schaefer, President
Charlotte Mathena, First Vice President
Barbara Keegan, Second Vice President
Sue Tackett, Treasurer
Betty Leve, Recording Secretary

Linda Sharp, Corresponding Secretary

Directors (Term Ends 2000):
Dick Balk
John Shrader
Judy Whitaker

Following the business portion of the meeting

DAVE NOLIN
Five Rivers MetroParks Chief of Conservation and
Vice President of the Beaver Creek Wetlands Association

will speak about the history of the Beaver Creek Wetlands Association and its continuing relationship with the Dayton Audubon Society. It was Dave's concern and foresight regarding the large stretch of swamp, fen, and wet woods along the Big Beaver Creek which resulted in the formation of the Beaver Creek Wetlands Association. Dave will share with us some of his insights and experiences in the preservation of wetlands, and of natural areas in general.

SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

by Jim Simpson

A phrase currently in vogue in business environmental ethics is "sustainable development". It is mentioned in conservation literature, in lofty speeches, and was the central topic at the recent UN conference in Rio de Janeiro. It sounds intriguing and hopeful, but what exactly is it? The answer, as you might guess, depends. Like "water-repellent" and "high-fidelity", it can mean almost anything. Like art or pornography, we know it when we see it. Or do we?

In 1995, the President's Council on Sustainable Development took on the challenge of constructing an enclosure for this enigma. The resulting definition used 15 broad principles to describe sustainable development which, while laudable, left a great deal of wiggle room to support a variety of widely divergent, and often conflicting, viewpoints and biases.

Conservation and environmental protection face many challenges at many levels in today's world: from biological depletion to loss of arable land to pollution in many forms to alteration of global climate to the stupid shopping center that "they" want to build down the street. Each of these, and many more, have their own unique elements, but they also share at least one common thread: they all involve a decision of what is most valuable to the individual, community, nation, or collection of nations concerned - an

evaluation of benefits realized from choice A or B. This can (and should) include consideration of long term sustainability. When faced with these decisions, frequently a call will go out for a cost-benefit analysis. While we may cringe at trying to place a value on health, green space, or the survival of another species, we find ourselves forced to to look at some form of economic analysis, even with a jaundiced eye, because hard numbers are easier to work with. As a result, decisions affecting "the environment", and our future, are too often dominated by an undeserved reliance on prevailing economic theories and predispositions.

The fundamental chalenge facing conservation advocates is how to influence determination of the greater benefit, and the biggest obstacle to this is current economic indoctrination. We have all heard the mantra: "We have to grow. More (homes, factories, jobs, taxpayers, fill in the blank) is not just better, it is a necessity. Technology and/or the information economy and/or the "invisible hand" of the marketplace will fix everything." Unfortunately, this line of thinking ignores relevant factors: "inputs" (raw materials or energy) have limited quantities, becoming scarcer with time, and sinks for our waste will become increasingly limited. Additionally, this line of thinking discounts calculated benefits to future generations to essentially zero, thereby justifying immediate and rapid exploitation, and anything that does not fit within the neat confines of current economic theory is labeled an "externality" and ignored. Also unacknowledged is that the marketplace is highly efficient at allocating a resource, but has no capability to determine how much of that resource can be used sustainably. Until we incorporate all of these factors (an admittedly difficult task), our decisions will not lead to a sustainable course.

Three recent books explore the inadequacies in current economic and business thinking, and try to offer alternatives.

- *The Ecology of Commerce: A Declaration of Sustainability,* by Paul Hawken (1994: Harper Business Press), is a readily accessible book that does not delve too deeply into technicalities. It is a good introduction to steady state economics.

- *For the Common Good: Redirecting the Economy Toward Community, the Environment, and a Sustainable Future* by Herman E. Daly and John B. Cobb, Jr. (1994: Beacon Press) Mr. Daly is one of the gurus of steady-state economics and Mr. Cobb is a theologian. Together they explore the consequences and rationale of the growth fixation, including some of the social/moral implications. This is a more in-depth study than the previous book.

- *Beyond Growth: The Economics of Sustainable Development* by Herman E. Daly (1996: Beacon Press) This is written more in the form of a textbook, and is a little easier to read than his earlier work. It contains some overlap from earlier writings.

Reordering an entrenched system of values is a daunting task, particularly when it is shrouded in an esoteric discipline like economics. Daunting, but not insurmountable. The best recourse is knowledge, to separate substance from fiscal snake oil, and these books are a good start. Use the knowledge to question interested parties, point out flaws, and press for recognition of the shortcomings. Decisions, some very

bad, will still occur based on dollars and growth, but bringing the fallibility of current economic analysis out of the shadow will make it harder to use it as the sole arbiter in the future.

TIME AND TALENTS

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Help and new ideas from the ranks of the membership are needed in order for the organization to reach its goals.

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- Adopt-a-Highway (roadside cleanup)
- Armchair Activist (Write to officials on issues)
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- Other

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Join The Armchair Activist Letter-of-the-Month Club

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DAYTON AUDUBON SOCIETY

Excerpts From

THE YELLOW WARBLER

The Newsletter of the Dayton Audubon Society

September 1997

Volume 59 - No. 5

Photo by Jim Simpson

Published eight times per year by the Dayton Audubon Society, 1375 E. Siebenthaler Ave., Dayton, OH 45414-5398

Bread Crumbs

A Note From DAS President Tom Schaefer

Thanks for reading *The Yellow Warbler*! We on the Board of Directors have thought for years that our newsletter should represent an important part in our budget because it is the one way we can communicate with all of our many members. Again, thanks for taking the time to read what DAS is up to.

First of all, be aware that 1998 is the 75th Anniversary of the Dayton Audubon Society. Back in 1923, meetings were first held in the old public library downtown. At that time, DAS members were almost exclusively local birders who both loved bird watching and wanted to help preserve bird populations nationally. In 1969 DAS affiliated with the National Audubon Society and, as might be expected, our conservation interests have broadened. More on special birthday activities in upcoming issues.

In celebration of Dayton Audubon's 75th year, I would like to personally invite you and your family to take part in DAS activity

this year. Our bird walks are legendary, and meet every weekend somewhere in the region all spring and fall. You don't have to come to all of them, just try one! The leaders are knowledgeable, and I'll guarantee that you'll come away having had a good time and learned something new about birds. Look for the schedule of fall walks.(Field Trip Schedule)

Dayton Audubon is more than just bird walks, however. The DAS Board of Directors and committee chairs meet monthly to report on new developments and decide on how to prioritize our budget. Much good work is done there and we're always on the lookout for new, interested folks to serve.

In addition, we have regular membership programs during the year. Each meeting, held south of town at the Cox Arboretum MetroPark, is designed to be both an educational and a social outing. Come out early for a walk at the Arboretum and stay for the program. Again, check the schedule for times and topics. (Schedule of Events)

In short, you are personally invited to take an active role in the Dayton Audubon Society. Since you are a member, you have an interest in the natural world. And as a member, you qualify to take an active role in all that DAS does. Reading about nature is great, but individual involvement allows for experiences that can make a personal difference. And if you're not ready now, the offer is always open!

Inviting you to join other Dayton Audubon members at our meetings and outings brings to mind the Philosophy of Joseph Sax, author of *Mountains Without Handrails: Reflections on the National Parks*(University of Michigan Press, 1980). Sax proposes that park philosophy should encourage visitors one step deeper into the natural experience. If one is on a car tour, for example, she or he is encouraged to step out for an interpretive walk. If a visitor is comfortable there, come out for a day hike and a lunch on the trail. If day hikes are normal activities, spend a day on the trail and a night out under the stars. In other words, the messages and wonders of nature, whether recognizing a bird for the first time or just sitting near a talking stream, can communicate with us if we take the time and make the effort.

You are invited to donate some of your time and treasure to the Dayton Audubon effort. Feel free to return the volunteer form found here in *The Yellow Warbler.* And if your schedue won't allow you to get involved now, let us know when you're ready. See you out there!

ATTEND NATIONAL AUDUBON'S 1997 GREAT LAKES REGIONAL CONFERENCE

--"BRING BACK THE BIRDS"--

AND MAKE 20,000 NEW FRIENDS

At the National Audubon Society"s 1997 Great Lakes Regional Conference, you may witness one of the most wonderful wildlife spectacles in our region -- the migration of Greater Sandhill Cranes through Jasper-Pulaski State Wildlife Area. During migration, Jasper-Pulaski hosts the largest concentration of Sandhill Cranes east of the Mississippi. The record is 32,559!

A visit to Jasper-Pulaski is on tap for everyone attending the conference, as well as informative workshops, exciting activities, and good camaraderie with fellow Auduboners from seven states. National Audubon President John Flicker will host a "Town Meeting", as well. The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn in Michigan City, Indiana from Friday, November 7 to Sunday, November 9, 1997, (the peak of Crane migration).

The registration fee of $50 is due by September 22; after that date, the fee goes to $75. Registration deadline is October 15. The fee covers three meals, a reception, the trip to Jasper-Pulaski, and all conference materials. Single day and student rates are available.

For more information and registration materials, contact Kit Spahr, Office Manager, Great Lakes Regional Office, 692 N. High Street, Columbus, OH, 43214-1548; or phone 614-224-3303, fax 614-224-3305, or e-mail kspahr@audubon.org. There is room for only 250 participants, so register soon!

The Lake Isle of Innisfree

```
I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree
  And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles
   made,
Nine bean rows will I have there, a hive for the honey
   bee,
  And live alone in the bee-loud glade.

And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes
   dropping slowly,
 Dropping from the veils of the morning to where
```

```
  the cricket sings;
There midnight's all a-glimmer, and noon a purple
   glow,
 And evening full of the linnet's wings.

I will arise and go now, for always night and day
  I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the
    shore;
While I stand on the roadway, or on the pavements
   gray,
 I hear it in the deep heart's core.
```

W. B. Yeats

TIME AND TALENTS

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DAYTON AUDUBON SOCIETY

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October 1997

Volume 59 - No. 6

Photo by Jim Simpson

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Bread Crumbs

A Note From DAS President Tom Schaefer

For those of you who couldn't get out to the DAS September program at Cox Arboretum MetroPark, you missed an inspirational meeting. Our two presenters were Paulette Larson and Christina Simmons, area teachers who have attended the Audubon Ecology Workshop in Connecticut. Both of them, by the way, passed along thank yous to all of you for making their trips possible. Both were DAS scholarship recipients.

Chris Simmons started the program with a slide show that chronicled her week at the camp in Greenwich back in the summer of 1996. She had a variety of pictures that showed the different programs and activities she attended, ranging from a wild flower workshop to a birding outing to a day at an intertidal pool on Long Island Sound.

The next part of her program proved to be the highlight of the night. She showed us a clipping from the local Beavercreek paper, telling her neighbors of her trip. Within a day or so after the article appeared, she got a call from Beavercreek Schools asking if she would be interested in transferring from Xenia, where she had been working, to one of her hometown elementaries. As it turned out, she was really

eager to work in Beavercreek, and soon took a job at Shaw Elementary.

But that was only the beginning. Chris realized that Shaw had a spot tailor-made for a land lab, and that gave her an idea. To make a long story short, Chris went to work getting her first graders and their parents involved in a massive undertaking. Despite some poison ivy problems, the group went full speed ahead: putting up feeders, installing a bird blind, improving trails with mulch, and planting wild flowers and a pioneer garden, complete with the "three sisters," corn, squash, and beans.

Excitement grew at Shaw. Chris's kids were pumped, but so were the other teachers. One of the language classes went out for a literature lesson. Other teachers found ways to use the new land lab, too. And this year is only it's second season! Chris has new ideas for the new year.

Our second presenter, Paulette Larson, teaches at Edison School in the Dayton system. Since she went to Connecticut just this past summer, she has yet to put much of what she learned into practice. She did mention, though, how inner city kids really come alive when talking about animals and growing things around the school. Such things seem to be a commopn denominator of excitement. Paulette is eager to see how her kids respond to new ideas.

Both women made their thank-you's to all of you very clear. Without the DAS scholarships, life would have been different. Simmons even went so far as to "blame" you all for what she has become since camp! That kind of blame felt pretty good as we sat and listened to her presentation.

All of you should know that DAS activities such as these scholarships are possible because of the portion of your dues that comes home and lets us run our programs. You are the cause of some mighty good teachers out there being given a chance to try some new ideas after being "infected" by the staff of one of the fine Audubon Ecology Camps.

You're doing good work, and you should know that! We plan to have Chris Simmons and other scholarship recipients come out during 1998, our seventy-fifth anniversary year, to show more members just how important DAS has been in their professional lives.

Thanks for your good work! And see you out there!

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AUDUBON ADVENTURES NEEDS YOU

One of the best ways to further the environmental cause is through education, and one of the best environmental education tools is National Audubon's **Audubon Adventures** program. Audubon Adventures provides materials to classrooms, in the form of bi- monthly packets,that cover a variety of topics, such as animal communication, wildflowers, and pond life. A teacher's guide is also included. The materials are fun as well as educational, and participating teachers have been unanimously enthusiastic.

If you know of a classroom in the Dayton area that would like Dayton Audubon to sponsor Audubon Adventures for them, or if you would like to sponsor a class yourself, please contact Barbara Keegan at 435-0707. The kids need you! You can make a difference!

TIME AND TALENTS

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Bread Crumbs

A Note From DAS President Tom Schaefer

Literature and the Environment

As a member of Dayton Audubon, something influenced you to take action and become a member. Maybe it was Earth Day that moved you. Maybe habitat. Perhaps it was just a love of birds. In any case, you became a sort of environmental advocate and thought enough of it to put some of your hard earned money into a membership to National Audubon and this local chapter.

For me, it was something I didn't quite recognize at first. I can remember looking at Audubon magazine when it was edited by Les Line years ago and knowing I liked how it looked. It seemed to have it's editorial heart in a good place. I mean, back in the seventies it was "cool", to quote the late John Denver, to think "green". A membership in Audubon seemed the right thing to do, you know?

But I came to recognize over time that one of the things that drew me into the environment was deeper

inside me. It came from reading the likes of Henry David Thoreau. There was something about Ralph Waldo Emerson capitalizing the 'N' in Nature that touched me. And then there was Emily Dickinson who wrote gently of "Nature's People," referring to animals. And of course there were the Romantics and the Transcendentalists. I recognized that I was in the company of kindred spirits when I read these literary masters.

Well, the plot thickened for me this past summer. In July, I was able to travel to the University of Montana for the conference of the Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment(ASLE). I've got to tell you, I found family out there! I found a whole group of folk who love Nature intently and also love the process and product of humankind's attempts to record our relationship with Nature in writing.

I listened to Barry Lopez (Arctic Dreams) read a moving eulogy for Wallace Stegner and then speak reverently of his involvement with aboriginal people around the world. Rick Bass read an excerpt of his new book, the Book of Yaak, and then surprised even himself as he wept in front of all of us as he explained how this beautiful corner of Montana is unexplainably overlooked continually when protection bills are written in Congress. My favorite speaker, though, was poet Pattiann Rogers. She read for almost an hour from her latest book, Firekeeper, to a rapt audience sitting on her every word.

I love the environment, but to be honest, I find myself "science resistant". I like to identify birds that pass through my life. I enjoy flowers and stars and cloud formations. But for me, the real wonder of Nature comes in the voice of a stream falling over rocks. Or in the poetry of Emily Dickinson. Or William Stafford.

If you feel the same way, you are in good company. If you would like to know more about ASLE, point your browser to http://www.faraday.clas.virginia.edu/~djp2n/asle.html. If you'd like to join a group of folk who love the word, keep our Earth Writings Walk in mind next season. Come out and read with us and share your thoughts. If you want to chat any of this over, give me a call. You can find my number on the Back Page. If you'd like, e- mail me at tschaefer@interaxs.net.

And in the words of poet Gary Snyder, "Stay together. Learn the flowers. Go light." I hope to see you out there!

SUPPORT THE ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY ACT

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) is one of the greatest success stories in American environmental history. The survival of the Pacific gray whale, the whooping crane, the California condor, the red wolf, and the bald eagle, can all be directly attributed to the ESA. But despite it's successes, it is not without flaws.

Recently introduced reauthorizing amendments to the ESA, known as the Endangered Species Recovery Act (ESRA), HR 2351, seek to retain the ESA'S most effective provisions while incorporating changes necessary for the future of wildlife conservation. ESRA provides incentives to landowners, streamlines the permitting processes, and allows more opportunities for citizen participation, while putting increased emphasis on science and on species recovery.

The ESRA has received the endorsement of the national and grassroots environmental community, as well as bipartisan support in the House of Representatives, by mandating the following:

- Assurances to landowners and incentives for good stewardship.
- Empowering local governments and citizens.
- Providing a scientific basis for species conservation.
- Focusing on species recovery, not just survival.
- Ensuring Federal agency responsibility.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:
Please call, fax, e-mail, or write your Representative and ask them to cosponsor HR 2351, the ESRA. Let them know you support ESA reauthorization that focuses on species recovery, not just survival. The toll-free number for the Capitol switchboard is 800-723-5246.

To find out more about ESRA and what you can do to make this innovative approach to endangered species conservation a reality, please contact Mary Minette at the National Audubon Society, 202- 861-2242, or e-mail mminette@audubon.org.

OHIO AUDUBON COUNCIL PROJECTS

The Ohio Audubon Council is an organization of the 20 Audubon chapters in Ohio, organized to facilitate communication between chapters, and to concentrate efforts on projects and issues of state-wide or regional concern to Audubon members. Delegates from the chapters meet quarterly to address issues, initiate projects, and keep in touch with the other chapters.

For many years, the Ohio Audubon Council has had two outstanding cooperative projects, made possible through the efforts of our chapters: Adopt-a-Refuge, and the OAC-OSU-ODNR Fellowship Grant. Below is a brief description of "Adopt-a-Refuge." A description of the Fellowship Grant will appear in the next *Yellow Warbler*.

ADOPT-A-REFUGE
The Ohio "Adopt-a-Refuge Program was established in October, 1982, when the Ohio Audubon Council

"adopted" the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge. Our National Wildlife Refuge System is a treasure that provides critical habitat for many threatened and endangered species of plants and animals. These refuges are especially important in sustaining and enhancing migratory bird populations. Ottawa is Ohio's only National Wildlife Refuge

Because most Ohio Audubon chapters are located too far from the Ottawa Refuge to provide volunteers, our program was designed to to allow all chapters to participate. The program calls for contributions from all chapters to an "Adopt-a-Refuge Fund." From this fund, we have made direct purchases of items needed by the Refuge that could not be purchased within the restricted refuge budget. Most of these purchases have been centered around education and public use. They have included binoculars, spotting scopes, photographic equipment, a tape recorder, educational slides and films, a movie projector, video and audio cassettes, books and field guides, a portable PA system, a specially built display case for a mounted bald eagle, an observation platform, a foot bridge, and many other needed items.

Our work with and for the Ottawa Wildlife Refuge has created a strong bond between the refuge personnel and Audubon. It has also played an important role in helping to make the value of the refuge known to Ohio citizens.

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Results of the 73rd Dayton Audubon Christmas Bird Count - December 28, 1997

(Special Update - Added January 2, 1998)

The **73rd Dayton Audubon Christmas Bird Count** was conducted on December 28, 1997. Sixty-eight species of birds were seen, and 7,132 individual birds were counted. The following are the results:

1	Common Loon	28	Northern Flickers
7	Pied-billed Grebes	7	Pileated Woodpeckers
49	Great Blue Herons	22	Horned Larks
1,162	Canada Geese	24	Blue Jays
2	Wood Ducks	183	American Crows
2	Green-winged Teal	1	Black-capped Chickadee
26	Black Ducks	377	Carolina Chickadees

1,161	Mallards	124	Tufted Titmice
15	Gadwall	33	Red-breasted Nuthatches
4	American Wigeon	80	White-breasted Nuthatches
5	Canvasbacks	24	Brown Creepers
1	Redhead	53	Carolina Wrens
1	Lesser Scaup	3	Winter Wrens
1	Bufflehead	15	Eastern Bluebirds
40	Hooded Mergansers	1	Hermit Thrush
1	Northern Harrier	167	American Robins
2	Sharp-shinned Hawks	7	Northern Mockingbirds
4	Cooper's Hawks	1	Brown Thrasher
1	Red-shouldered Hawk	972	Starlings
30	Red-tailed Hawks	4	Yellow-rumped Warblers
21	American Kestrels	373	Cardinals
1	Peregrine Falcon	10	Eastern Towhees
4	Northern Bobwhite	64	Tree Sparrows
6	American Coots	1	Fox Sparrow
463	Ring-billed Gulls	72	Song Sparrows
199	Rock Doves	3	Swamp Sparrows
301	Mourning Doves	133	White-throated Sparrows
5	Great Horned Owls	225	Dark-eyed Juncos
1	Barred Owl	4	Eastern Meadowlarks
13	Belted Kingfishers	3	Purple Finch
47	Red-bellied Woodpeckers	93	House Finch
6	Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers	144	American Goldfinch
104	Downey Woodpeckers	182	House Sparrows
15	Hairy Woodpeckers		

On an unusual sighting note, a Chuckar was observed on the 24th outside a church on Thruston Blvd in south Dayton.

Christmas Bird Count

Along with the holiday season, December also brings one of the biggest events of the year for Dayton Audubon: the annual **Christmas Bird Count.** Started in 1925 by Ben Blincoe, this will be our 73rd annual count; we brave snow, rain, or (occasionally) bitter cold to continue this tradition, and we always have a good time. Again this year, the count will be held the Sunday after Christmas, **December 28.**

The National Audubon Christmas count, with which the DAS Count is affiliated, originated on

Christmas day in 1900. Twenty-seven conservationists in New England organized a highly-publicized bird count to protest the then-traditional "holiday side hunt". The count became an annual tradition, and soon spread nationwide. The data collected over the years provide statistically useful and interesting scientific information on early winter distribution patterns of many bird species, as well as occasional fluctuations, and serves as a valid indicator of the overall health of the environment.

On Count Day, local participants will search for birds in a 15-mile diameter area around Dayton. The area is divided into 13 territories, each covered by a different group. The participants attempt to identify and count all of the birds in their areas. Anyone is welcome to help with the count; check the list of territories below and contact the appropriate leader if you would like to help. Some areas, particularly Charleston Falls, Aullwood, the downtown parks, and Wright State, usually need more volunteers. Additionally, **feeder watchers** are welcome to participate as long as the feeder is within the count area and the results are reported at or before the compilation meeting.

The results of the count will be tabulated at our **Compilation Meeting** on **Tuesday, December 30, at 7:15 p.m.** Even if you cannot participate in the count itself, you are invited to attend the Compilation Meeting. Light refreshments will be served, and many interesting sightings and amusing tales will be told. The meeting, as always, will be held at **Aullwood Audubon Center, 1000 Aullwood Road.**

Grab your binoculars, dress warmly, and come out for the fun. If you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Mathena at (937)433-2167.

Christmas Count Areas

Cricket Holler
Jim Williams 437-0582

Aullwood Audubon Center & Farm, Dayton Airport
Ray Corder 833-4177

Charleston Falls Reserve, Taylorsville MetroPark East
Dave Knoop 698-3767

Eastwood Lake, HuffmanReservoir, Mad River
Dave Nolin 426-9302

Woodland Cemetery
Tom Schaefer 276-2162

Englewood MetroPark
Charlie and Betty Berry 836-3022

Wright State University, Hilltop Gravel Pit
Mike Triplett 767-4341

Taylorsville MetroPark West
Tom Hissong 890-7360, 898-0515

Wright-Patterson AFB
Charlotte Mathena 433-2167

Carriage Hill MetroPark
Mike Coogan 643-1726

Montgomery County JVS
Mike Buchanan 884-7180, 854-6385

Hills & Dales Park, Old River Park, Carillon Park, Calvary Cemetery, Miami River South
Billie Taylor 294-3817

Leland Center, Museum of Natural History, Downtown Parks,Miami River North, Wolf Creek
Dane Mutter 898-3495

Bread Crumbs

A Note From DAS President Tom Schaefer

Dreaming of Summer!

Back in the 1930s, when the Audubon movement was barely forty years old, then-National Audubon president John Baker received a visitor to his New York office who had a strange request. The visitor owned an island up in Muscongus Bay, Maine, that had served as her family's summer refuge for three decades. Unfortunately, she was childless and had no heir to the 333-acre island. Her proposal: To give the island to NAS for a marine/ornithological science station.

Baker's visitor was Millicent Todd Bingham, whose name you might recognize as the editor of *Bolts of Melody: New Poems of Emily Dickenson.* Her mother, Mabel Loomis Todd, had purchased the island as a summering place just after the turn of the century.

This was a timely development for Baker. He had envisioned a summer camp where youth leaders could come for science education, and then excite their students with the newly developing science of ecology. This land bequest was just what Baker had been looking for. The Audubon Ecology Camp for Adult Leaders opened at Muscongus Bay in 1935, beginning a new venture for NAS. Other ecology camps in Connecticut and Wyoming soon followed.

Have you ever considered going to an Audubon camp? From personal experience, I can assure you that you wouldn't be sorry. I still remember my trip to the camp in Maine over fifteen years ago as one of my absolute best summer experiences. My family and I also tied a little New England site-seeing into the expedition and had a great break from the Ohio summer heat.

The Workshop in the Rockies near Lander, Wyoming, is located at about 7,500-feet in the Wind River Mountains. Camp participants stay in log cabins, and course offerings range from animal behavior to glacial ecology to western plants to, as you might expect, birding.

The Workshop near Greenwich, Connecticut, is especially designed for teachers, but other folks go and have a great time, too. While the camp housing is comfortable, the 510-acre New England nature sanctuary that surrounds it is truly wonderful: great trees, great birds, and great stars await.

I've been lucky enough to spend some time at both the Maine and Connecticut camps - and I am eager for the chance to get to the Rockies. The approximate cost for a week at any of the camps is a reasonable $600/week. That includes all your meals and a comfortable room. (Beware of the gift shops, though. The books, shirts, and other goodies are tough to put down.)

I've talked with many folks who have gone to all three camps, and I can tell you honestly I have heard no one say it wasn't worth the time or financial commitment.Time permitting, the location of each camp would also allow you to create your personal or family expedition around the trip. The Maine camp is a good day's drive from Acadia National Park. The Connecticut camp, tree-bound as it is, is still just a forty-minute train ride from New York City. And Wyoming, well, it is in the Rockies. Use your imagination!

Catalogs for all NAS camps are available through Aullwood or Dayton Audubon. Scholarships for educators are available, too. If you have any questions, feel free to give me a call at 276-2162. In the meantime this winter, I'll be thinking about seeing you out there!

Scholarships for Summer Camps Available!

DAS offers scholarships to both students and teachers for Audubon summer camps. Students are welcome at one-week camps in New Hampshire and Maine; teachers at one week camps in Maine, Con necticut, and Wyoming. Catalogs and applications are available. For information, contact Tom Schaefer (276-2162 or tschaefer@interaxs.net).

OHIO AUDUBON COUNCIL PROJECTS

The Ohio Audubon Council (OAC) is an organization of the 20 Audubon chapters in Ohio, the purpose of which is to facilitate communication between chapters, and to concentrate efforts on projects and issues of state-wide or regional concern to Audubon members. Delegates from the chapters meet quarterly to address issues, initiate projects, and keep in touch with the other chapters.

For many years, the Ohio Audubon Council has had two outstanding cooperative projects, made possible through the efforts of our chapters: Adopt-a-Refuge, and the OAC-OSU-ODNR Fellowship Grant. (A description of the Adopt-a-Refuge program appeared last month.)

Fellowship Grant
The Fellowship Grant is a cooperative venture between OAC, The Ohio State University, and the Division of Wildlife of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. This program, developed by Dr. Tony J. Peterle, Professor Emeritus at The Ohio State University, provides two-year fellowships to

graduate students in environmentally related subjects at OSU. The program is entering its ninth year.

The first four fellowship projects included a study of the Barn Owl in Ohio by Mary Gustafson, a two-year study of Avian Diversity on Remnant Grasslands in Ohio by Jennifer Caito (Jennifer is now an environmental naturalist at Aullwood Audubon Center), and a study of means to reestablish nesting colonies of Common Terns in Ohio, begun by Nathan Stricker (of Russia, Ohio) and continued by Delia Garcia.

Our current fellowship student is Greg Krzys, who will evaluate the techniques that have been used by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for wetland breeding bird surveys. Greg hopes to devise methods to improve and expand these surveys.

The Fellowship Grant and Adopt-a-Refuge are two unique and impressive programs, and an outstanding example of the dedication and effectiveness of Audubon at a local and state level. For more information about the Ohio Audubon Council, contact Mike Coogan at 643-1726.

MEMBERS SLIDE SHOW

The popular "Members' Slide Show" will return on **January 21, 7:00 p.m., at Cox Arboretum.** This has been a favorite program with DAS members since we initiated it a few years ago, and a fun way to pass time in the winter months. Everyone is invited to bring their birding slides, nature slides, or others that might be of interest to DAS members. As with last year, we also invite members to bring in their craft exhibits. Quilts, woodcarvings, birdhouses; anything you'd be proud to show to other members will be put on display.

If you are interested in bringing something to the program, please call Lee Hall, 434-4531, prior to the meeting, so he can be sure we have enough space and time.

Even if you don't bring a display, everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the show. It's always interesting and unique.