Fall conference convened at Little Rock

Dr. Rob Doster presented the program for the Friday evening session of the fall conference of the Arkansas Audubon Society. The conference was Oct. 26-28 at the Crowne Plaza in Little Rock.

Doster, who is a native of Pine Bluff and a former president of AAS, is a wildlife biologist/ornithologist for the Albuquerque (N.M.) Area office of the Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Department of the Interior. His presentation, “Life and times of the Willow Flycatcher: an update from the Southwest,” covered his work coordinating the agency’s efforts.

Jack Stewart, AAS president, welcomed the 75 attendees to the conference, and took care of routine business, including a reminder that the time was running out for the society to meet the Hot Springs Village Audubon Society’s challenge for funds for the AAS Trust. HSV challenged the membership to donate $2,000 by the end of the fall conference, and they would donate an additional $1,000.

During the business portion of the evening, several reports and announcements were made. Barry Haas reported on the 28th Halberg Ecology Camp, which had served 118 campers during the two sessions. A third session, an advanced camp for 13- and 14-year-olds, convened for the first time. (A report on that camp is on page 6 of this issue.) Haas said 32 adults had attended the 2007 adult camp.

Dr. Art Johnson, co-chairman of the Halberg Ecology Camp Committee, and his wife, Martha, camp committee secretary, were introduced. The Johnsons have been associated with the camp since the 1980s, and have submitted their resignations effective Dec. 31. Dr. Eric Sundell has been appointed to serve as co-chairman with B.J. Cutrell. Barbara Baker will replace Martha Johnson as secretary.

Following Doster’s presentation, the Saturday field trips were reviewed. An added field trip, led by Allan Mueller, was scheduled for Wattensaw Wildlife Management Area to look for the Ivory-billed Woodpecker.

Hamel speaker for Saturday evening session

Paul B. Hamel, who is with the Center for Bottomland Hardwoods Research, Stoneville, Miss., was introduced by Jason Luscier, AAS vice president, as Saturday night’s speaker. Hamel presented “The forgotten Cerulean Warblers of the Mid-South.” His research focuses on impacts of forest management on neotropical migrants, including Cerulean Warblers.

Leif Anderson, AAS Trust chairman, announced the names of recipients for Trust grants.

See Conference on Page 9

Rare Visitor

The Snow Bunting in the photo is one of two that were located Nov. 18 on Okay Levee at Millwood Lake. The birds were seen by a number of birders and were last reported on Nov. 26. They are only about the fifth or sixth records for the species in Arkansas.
From the President

Members’ help needed to promote, increase AAS

"Do you remember when we used to bring our sleeping bags and everyone slept on the floor at those meetings?" That was one of two conversations overheard at the Arkansas Audubon Society convention in Little Rock that got me thinking. People who were a part of AAS back in its formative years have fond memories of early Society gatherings. Back then the average age of the membership was a bit younger! These days most of us wouldn’t be thrilled with the idea of sleeping on the floor.

At one point in its history AAS had nearly 1,000 members. Today that number has shrunk to something closer to 400. Like many other natural history-oriented organizations AAS is experiencing an increase in the average age of its members and a decrease in membership over-all.

The second conversation took place near the registration desk. A couple had just been handed the brown registration envelope complete with name tags, meal tickets, field trip descriptions, maps — everything they needed and everything they needed to know was already in their packet.

These folks were rightfully impressed and one of them said, "Your committee must have worked hard at this". Well, actually there is no convention committee! While convention attendees may have been aware that volunteers were at work during the convention, the truth is, one person, our vice president, Jason Luscie, did 90 percent of the planning and arranging.

Those of us who have served as vice president know how immensely satisfying it is to plan and carry-off a smoothly run convention, but we also realize that more could be done with less stress if only we had a real convention committee as is called for in the Society By-laws.

These observations are closely related. The population of Arkansas is increasing while the Society membership is declining. We need to find out why this is so. If we are successful in

See From the President, page 6

Obituary

James D. Doster


He was born Nov. 19, 1969, in Pine Bluff, a son of Charles C. Doster Jr. and Billie K. Doster.

SFC Doster was raised and received his education in White Hall, graduating from White Hall High School. He also attended Hendrix College in Conway.

He was baptized at Lakeside Methodist Church in Pine Bluff. He was a loving and devoted husband and father.

SFC Doster was platoon sergeant for 1st Platoon, B Co., 2nd Bn., 16th Reg., 4th Inf. Bde. Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div., Fort Riley, Kan. He also served in Operation Desert Storm.

Survivors include his wife, Amanda Lynn Doster; two daughters, Kathryn and Grace Doster; his mother, Billie Doster of White Hall; and a brother, Robert Doster of Albuquerque, N.M.

He was preceded in death by his father, Charles C. Doster Jr.

The funeral was Oct. 11, 2007, at Lakeside United Methodist Church, with Rev. Jim Brooks officiating.

Please send obituaries to dolores@siftingsherald.com

Arkansas Audubon Society

Newsletter

The Arkansas Audubon Society Newsletter is a quarterly publication of Arkansas Audubon Society Inc., a nonprofit organization, P.O. Box 313, Pangburn, Ark. 72121.

Issue dates are: March 15, June 15, Sept. 15 and Dec. 15.

The newsletter is provided to those who pay membership dues to AAS.

Send submissions for the newsletter to: Dolores Harrington, #8 Western Hills Dr., Arkadelphia 71923.

Graphics on banner and mast drawn by Pat Moore. 50th anniversary logo by Sharon Carter.


ANNUAL DUES on calendar year basis
Regular Member .............................................. 15.00
Regular Family .............................................. 20.00
Sustaining Member ............................................ 20.00
Sustaining Family ............................................. 25.00
Contributing Member ......................................... 30.00
Contributing Family ........................................... 35.00
Student Member ............................................. 5.00

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIPS
Life ................................................................. $250.00
Patron ............................................................... 500.00

Draw check to Arkansas Audubon Society and send to:
Terry Butler, Treasurer
P.O. Box 313, Pangburn, Ark. 72121
AAS is a 501 (c) (3) organization.
The Arkansas Audubon Society was organized in 1955.
Distribution and Abundance of Arkansas Birds
The Summer Season – June-July 2007

Field Notes

Contributors are mentioned by name the first time in the following report and by initials thereafter. Thank you for submitting reports.

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK — Twenty years ago, there was only one record of this species in Arkansas, and it was not in the summer. Today, there are summer records from most parts of the state, but it is still rare outside of Southwest Arkansas, and is particularly rare in North Arkansas. So, the two seen in Desha County, 7-12, by Dick Baxter and Sarah Baxter; and the single bird 6-7, in Mississippi County, seen by Jeremy Bennett are significant.

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN — The more than 150 birds seen at Wapanocca National Wildlife Refuge, Crittenden County, 6-27, found by Jeff Wilson and Joe Gwinn was an unusually large number for the summer season.

ANHINGA — The single female that was at Wapanocca NWR, 6-27, (JW, JG) suggests nesting in the area for this uncommon and local species.

ROSEATE SPONGBILL — Nick Anich saw five immatures 7-30 at Bald Knob National Wildlife Refuge, White County. This is an increasing, but still rare species in Northeast Arkansas.

WOOD STORK — The two adults seen 6-18 in Dallas County, by William Shepherd and Gary Graves were early. The species is uncommon and local even during its peak period of occurrence.

OSPREY — The active nest with young found at Lake Monticello, Drew County, 7-23, (NA) was a new breeding site. Osprey is a rare nesting species.

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE — Possibly a victim of chlorinated hydrocarbons, this species disappeared from Arkansas in 1949 and reappeared in Arkansas County in 1993. This year, there were two sightings, both from Arkansas County: Two birds, 6-2, near Weber, (Dan Scheiman, Dennis Bradly, Gail and Carl Northcutt) and two birds near Ethel, 6-9, (Karen Holliday).

BALD EAGLE — Allan Mueller of The Nature Conservancy reports 75 nesting pairs in Arkansas this summer. They are still uncommon in the state this season.

SWAINSON'S HAWK — The only report was of a single adult, 7-7, in northwest Benton County, (Joe Neal and Mike Mlodinow). This is the only place where this species has been regularly found in summer.

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER — Although there are several records for late May, the adult male, 6-1, at the Craig Fish Hatchery, Benton County, (MM), provided the second June record for the state.

SEMIPALMATED PLOVER — The single bird at the Craig Fish Hatchery, Benton County, 6-1, (MM), is only the fourth June record for Arkansas.

WILLET — Uncommon, even during its migratory peak, the single Willet at Merrisach Lake Park, 6-19 seen by Bruce Tedford was only the sixth June record for Arkansas. Since all such records have occurred on June 17 or later, they were probably fall rather than spring migrants.

LEAST SANDPIPER — Very unusual were the two, seven miles northwest of Arkansas City, Desha County, 6-14, (DBa). The date is about halfway between the usual end of spring migration and the usual beginning of fall migration for this species, and is only the fifth record during June.

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER — There are three previous June records for this species. One was seen 6-1, at the Craig Fish Hatchery, Benton County, by MM.

WILSON'S PHALAROPE — The male at the Craig Fish Hatchery, Benton County, 6-8, (MM) is the latest of five June records for this species.

RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER — JN reports a very good year in the Ouachitas there were birds at 39 sites, at least 88 adults were present, and about 66 young were fledged.

LEAST FLYCATCHER — Rare anytime during the summer, one in Fulton County, 6-4, (DBa, Erin Macchia) was, apparently, a late spring migrant, while one in Washington County, 7-21, (MM) was an early fall transient.

WESTERN KINGBIRD — Recently established as a breeding bird, this species nests, in Arkansas, along major rivers, as illustrated by the following: Bill and Toka Beall found

See Birds on Page 4
36 adults at 23 sites, and 19 nests in Sebastian and Crawford counties, 6-23 and 6-24, but none of these birds 6-5, when they searched western Washington and Benton counties.

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER — Seems to have continued its increase in eastern Arkansas: DBa found these birds at four locations in Desha County, 6-15, including the first two nests for the county.

HOUSE WREN — Nearly all summer records for this species are from Northwest Arkansas. So, the bird found 6-19 at Fort Smith, Sebastian County, by Sandy Berger may represent a range extension into the Arkansas River Valley in west central Arkansas.

CEDAR WAXWING — Summers uncommonly in Northwest Arkansas and rarely in West Central Arkansas. David Arbour found two adults attending a nest this summer (6-9) near Ozone, Johnson County, in northwest Arkansas; only the eighth nest found in Arkansas.

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER — Has been restricted to the Ozarks as a breeding species. But, this year two were heard singing along Unity Road, Saline County, 6-20, (DS) and one was heard along Sulphur Springs Road, 6-30, (DS, KH, Dottie and Doris Bylors) suggesting that the species may be extending its range to the Ouachitas.

YELLOW WARBLER — The female or Immature found 7-29, in Washington County, was in an area where the species didn’t breed. The bird was probably an early fall migrant.

PINE WARBLER — The singing male found at Kelso, Desha County, in the Mississippi Alluvial Plain, 6-13, (DBa), suggests that it may have nested there. Pine Warbler is a rare nesting species in the alluvial plain.

CERULEAN WARBLER — The female found at Mt. Sequoyah, Washington County, 7-22, (MM), was in an area where the species is not known to breed, suggesting that the bird was an early fall migrant.

WORM-EATING WARBLER — The bird found by David Chapman at Lake Fayetteville, 6-17 was probably not a breeding bird, because the area was searched many times before and after that date, when the bird was not found. Thus, it must have been a transient of some sort, probably either a post-breeding wanderer or an early fall migrant.

LARK SPARROW — Apparent fall transients were found 7-12, Desha County, (DBa, SBa), (two birds), and 7-29, Washington County, (MM), (one bird). The former date is the earliest fall migration date on record for the species in Arkansas. The species is unusual among sparrows, because it migrates mainly in late July and August.

SAVANNAH SPARROW — One was found in Desha County, seven miles northwest of Arkansas City, 6-22, (DBa). There are no summer records in the AAS file, which dates back to 1963. The only other summer record is the 17 June, 1940, record reported by W.J. Baerg in his monograph, Birds of Arkansas, 1951. That bird was seen in Washington County. It is noteworthy that this species is considered accidental during the summer even in Missouri (Annotated Checklist of Missouri Birds, 2007).

Mike Mlodinow

To those submitting bird records, I would like to request that whenever possible or applicable, please submit the following information: The sex of the bird, the age (juvenile, immature, sub-adult, adult), seasonal plumage (winter, breeding, transitional) and color.

Joe Neal named AAS curator

Joseph C. "Joe" Neal assumed the position of Arkansas Audubon Society curator in October, at the request of Max Parker. Parker has served as curator for many years, but chose to relinquish the post because of health concerns.

Neal is a life member of AAS and has previously served on the AAS Trust and as curator. He is the co-author, with Douglas A. James, of Arkansas Birds (U of A Press, 1986.)

Neal is a wildlife biologist with the USDA Forest Service in the Ouachita National Forest. He received grant money from a friend, Eleanor Johnson of Fayetteville, to set up (with Richard Staufacher) and begin data entry into the AAS online bird records database. That demonstration allowed the society to move ahead with the online system now available on its web site.

All records and supporting documents have been transferred to office space provided by Kimberly G. Smith and Doug James at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville where Neal will undertake his new responsibilities. He has asked that everyone be patient while the transition is under way. "Max Parker’s shoes will be big shoes to fill," he said. "Part of this transition will include some new ways to enter data into the database."

Send records and supporting documents to: Joe Neal, Curator, Department of Biological Sciences, 601 Science-Engineering Building, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark. 72701-1201.

The curator’s permanent e-mail address is joeneal@uark.edu.

It's not too late!!

It's the perfect Christmas gift.

One size fits nearly everyone, and it's so easy to shop for and send.

Give a gift membership to the Arkansas Audubon Society to someone who is interested in birds and birding.

Just send a check with the name and address of the intended recipient to the AAS treasurer, Terry Butler, P.O. Box 313, Pangburn, Ark. 72121. Regular membership is only $15 per year or $20 pays for a regular family membership. The memberships include four issues of Arkansas Birds.

Your gift will be acknowledged with a card to the recipient. So get shopping! Santa will soon be on his way.
News of Members

New Members

David Ray, North Little Rock
Judith Ann Griffith, Berryville
Don Matt, Berryville
Jeff Nichols, Boone, Iowa
Mary Doud, Boone, Iowa
Elizabeth Donadio, Russellville
Ava Arsaga, Olympia, Wash.
James Dixon, Little Rock
Adam Schaffer, Fayetteville
Paul Lowrey, Fayetteville
Dottie Boyles, Little Rock
Doris Boyles, Little Rock

Advanced Camper new members

Ashley Bles, Fairfield Bay
Tiffany Bayne, Mena
Bernie Clark, Bentonville
Cody “Dakota” Hale, Rose Bud
Sawyer Hansen, Fayetteville
John Harvey, Arkadelphia
Cody Horton, Greers Ferry
Stephanie Poe, Yuma, Ariz.
Erin Shaffer, Fayetteville
Elizabeth Wahliquist, Drasco
Jonathan Wirges, North Little Rock

New Life Member

Curtis A. Mueller, Conway

By Loice K. Lacy
Arkansas Birds

We truly enjoyed the well-planned fall AAS meeting at Little Rock. As usual, the speakers, food, camaraderie and field trips were top quality. However, from that time until now we’ve been gone from home so-o-o-much that the birds in our own yard are scarce — pouting and punishing us for empty feeders.

On Saturday morning at the meeting we were on the Bell Slough trip led by Herschel Raney. It was a pleasure to have two grandsons of Hazel and Delos McCauley accompanying their grandparents for the outing. Jonathan, 12, and Caleb, 14, are from San Antonio. Hazel reports that Caleb was enthusiastic about birding around 9 years of age, but in early adolescence his interest waned for a while. She is pleased that now he is very much the birder again, calling them frequently to report on what he is seeing. It was such a treat to see the interest the young lads exhibited at the meeting.

During the program on Saturday evening I sat beside Catherine Hepinstall who was accompanied by her son, David Hamilton. It is always rewarding to meet family of fellow Auduboners and to have them attend our meetings. Come again, David, Jonathan, Caleb and any other visitors I’ve overlooked.

On the following morning, we went on a trip to Pinnacle Mountain State Park led by Barry Haas. We enjoyed a pleasant hike in good company, numerous birds, and an interesting time at the Visitors Center where I saw the most muttonchases I’ve ever seen at one spot. Both Red-breasted and White-breasted were jostling for space at the feeders, along with several other species of birds.

I would have been content to spend an hour or so there just watching had time permitted.

The report of immature Golden Eagles at Hunter drew Hazel and Delos McCauley there in early November. Although they didn’t see the Golden Eagles, they saw an immature Bald as well as hundreds of thousands of Snow Geese and many species of ducks. Delos also saw a flock of 38 Wilson’s Snipe.

JoAnne Rife writes that, although she has seen only two American Bitterns in the Ozarks in her life in spite of the fact that they pass through annually, Charles Adair, retired superintendent of Harrison schools, photographed one on top of Gaither Mountain Oct. 6. Charles used a National Geographic Field Guide she had given him (one of over 100 she has given away through the years) to identify the bird. Amazingly enough, the second bittern seen by JoAnne was inside the city limits in Martha Milburn’s backyard following a storm.

Jack and Pam Stewart spent two weeks in Italy in the spring. Pam said what she found so interesting was the intriguing ambiance of the many small villages of the country. Although birding was not too good there — nor was it the focus of the trip — Jack said they were treated to an unexpected sighting of a tree full of birds of numerous species in, of all places, downtown Rome. A trip they will be making this winter to Guiana in South America will be “or the birds.”

As I was on the phone to Jack Nov. 17, he and Pam were at Lake Dardanelle hoping to see the Lesser Black-backed Gull. They had not yet seen it, but he reported they were in the company of crowds of birders, among them the Disorganized Bird Club.

Sterling and I spent 10 days in early November birding and botanizing in Costa Rica with a group of 38 other master gardeners from all over Arkansas. Most were not interested in the plants only as was evidenced by the number who arose sleepily most mornings to engage in a six o’clock bird walk.

We had two young native guides, with Marco being our birding expert and Miguel more plant-oriented. The best of both worlds. The two were outstanding, as was our bus driver who got many a round of applause on the occasions when he’d squeak us by big trucks on a very narrow, winding, steep, muddy mountain road. In most places such a road was barely wide enough for one vehicle with a drop-off down, down the mountainside — no guard rail! When we’d meet a vehicle, sometimes there would be a standoff for a few minutes to see which driver could best back up to a slightly wider place in the road. Looking out my window, no guard would be visible beside the bus, just a view straight down the mountain. But we always made it!

As if the bus rides were not exciting enough, I found thrilling adventure in taking a tour on the zipline. Such tours are popular in the mountains of Central and South America. Ours involved 11 segments zipping from platform to platform on a heavy cable sometimes as high as 250 feet above the valley, trees and river. Half our group signed up to go but several much younger than I (actually, all on the trip were 15 to 40 years younger than Sterling and I) tried to discourage me, I guess thinking I was too old for such an experience. But I told them I had to go now or never. Three of the group dropped out after three segments. One

See Members on Page 6
could take a trail back down the mountain from the first three platforms, but after that one was committed to do the whole route, which is what I did. Sterling didn’t sign up because of the steep climb, at a high altitude, up the mountain to the first platform.

Our lodging in Tortuguero National Park could be reached only by boat. The three-hour trip on the waterway treated us to up close views of water birds, Cayman, sloths and monkeys. At our lodge there — as well as at two other remote places we stayed — we had a wake-up call each morning at about 4:30 by howler monkeys. No alarm clock necessary.

The next two nights were spent in Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve. Here the incredible 12 feet of rain annually creates a lush green garden of mosses, ferns, flowers, and epiphytes growing thickly on every tree, with dangling roots and vines sweeping across the trails. Miguel showed us several species of trees that have the ability to periodically shed all their bark to get rid of the weight of too many hitchhikers. Their message is “Everybody off!”

Plants, birds, great guides, Costa Rican culture and history, local cuisine, pleasant companionship, exciting adventures — we experienced it all. Plans are now in the works for next year’s master gardener trip which will combine Australia and New Zealand. Will we go? Stay tuned.

Our next extended trip will be a return to the Rio Grande Valley for a stay in my van in a RV park as we did three years ago. At that time we got to see the Crimson-collared Grosbeak, very rare in Texas, and the Social Flycatcher on its maiden trip to the United States. We’re hoping for more unusual sightings.

Yes, I’m packing. For a trip to Texas to visit relatives over the Thanksgiving holidays.

**First session of Advanced Ecology Camp deemed success**

The first session of the AAS Halberg Advanced Ecology Camp for 13- and 14-year-olds was held in July at Mount Eagle Christian Center in the Ozark Mountains. The pilot program was pronounced a resounding success by the campers and the staff.

To qualify for the advanced camp, a participant had to have attended the AAS Halberg Ecology Camp as an 11- or 12-year-old and to have been selected to return the next year as a senior camper. From the senior campers, 12 were invited to attend the advanced camp with its in-depth curriculum. The area selected for the camp provided an excellent setting to study geology, aquatic biology, plants, amphibians, mammals, reptiles, insects and birds.

Among the special attractions were: Floating down the Buffalo River; while studying water quality, an in-depth care tour of Blanchard Springs Caverns, plant studies of the vegetation of the Ozarks, fossil hunting, birding, hikes and star gazing. An elite group of six boys and five girls attended the camp under the supervision of four experienced educators. They described their experience as “awesome.”

An advanced camp had long been the dream of Dr. Art Johnson, co-chairman of the AAS Halberg Camp Committee. Under his direction and with his vision and persistence, the camp finally became a reality this year. Due to the success of its inaugural session, the camp committee plans to continue the advanced learning center as a sequel to the AAS Halberg Ecology Camp. They will rely on the support of ecology-minded supporters, who desire to teach young people how to appreciate and care for the environment.

— Submitted by Josie Farrell

**From the President from Page 2**

identifying causes and are able to reverse the membership trend, we need to be ready to meet the expectations of our new and current membership. That means improvements in the way we plan for conventions.

The AAS Board of Directors has recognized these problems and has authorized:

A survey of current, former, and prospective members to find out what Society activities are valued, what should be improved, what might be added, and to solicit other suggestions.

An effort to increase the general fund in order to cover the anticipated costs of a membership drive, increased convention speaker fees and to provide seed money for some of the ideas recommended by the Committee Undertaking to Keep Our Organization (CUCKOO).

The allocation to the general fund of all new patron and life memberships starting January 2008.

You can help by doing the following:

* Consider making a gift this holiday season of AAS membership to anyone on your list who might be interested
* Consider getting more involved with your Society by volunteering to serve on the convention committee, filling the vacant post of Education Chair, or by approaching one of the other committee chairs and offering to help. It is guaranteed that you will be glad you became more active.

* Monitor your local newspaper and inform our publicity chair, Sally Jo Gilson, if notices about our conventions are being published. Does your paper have deadlines for submissions? If so, send Sally Jo that information as well.
* When the AAS survey is made available participate as soon as possible. We need your input.

And finally, mark your calendars for AAS Conventions in Fort Smith this April and DeGray Lake Resort State Park in October.

Jack Stewart
AAS president
From the Camp

Fall Appeal nets good early amount; could exceed 2006 total

The Halberg Ecology Camp’s Fall Appeal is in full swing. Every member of the Arkansas Audubon Society as well as past donors to the camp received our annual Fall Appeal letter, the only time each year we directly solicit such donations for the Camp. As in past years the 42 donations to date have been a mix of past donors, members of AAS, and parents or grandparents of past campers.

As this is being written on Nov. 21, we have received $2,805 from AAS members and another $1,500 from parents and grandparents of campers. That early total of $4,305 compares to $5,495 for last year’s entire Fall Appeal. So at this early stage it appears we may exceed last year’s Fall Appeal total. The best news is we have had 14 AAS members make Fall Appeals for the first time in recent years, a total of $1,225. Thank you so much for helping us fund this unique environmental education opportunity for 11- and 12-year-old youth. They are, after all, our future.

If you would like to make a donation to the Halberg Ecology Camp, mail a check made payable “AAS Halberg Ecology Camp” to 804 Konrad Court, Little Rock, Ark. 72223-9201. All donations are 100 percent tax deductible as the camp is part of the Arkansas Audubon Society and a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization as determined by the Internal Revenue Service. If for any reason you wish your donation to remain anonymous, we will gladly honor that request.

Barry Haas
AAS Ecology Camp treasurer

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<td>In memory of Jack Hepinstall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helen and Max Parker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In memory of Jack Hepinstall and Rosa Lee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catherine Hepinstall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In memory of Jack Parker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max and Helen Parker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In memory of Ross Jamison Jr.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
From the Trust

HSV challenge met and exceeded during fall conference

The Arkansas Audubon Society Trust successfully met a challenge made by the Hot Springs Village Audubon Society in the fall of 2006.

The challenge was to raise $2,000 in matching money and Hot Springs Village AS would donate another $1,000 to the Trust. Well, it took us until sometime during the 2007 fall meeting, the end of the one year challenge period, to meet and exceed the $2,000 goal. A total of $2,450 was donated, adding another $3,450 including Hot Springs Village Audubon Society’s $1,000 to the Trust’s Endowment-Memorial Fund. Thank you, Trust supporters.

The Trust Endowment-Memorial Fund now stands at $109,644, the highest it has ever been since the Trust was created in 1973. That is an increase of $5,008 over the past year. Income produced by Endowment-Memorial Fund investments is just over $7,000 annually and is used to fund grants approved by the five Trustees.

You can read elsewhere in this newsletter about the four grants approved by Trustees when they met during the fall meeting in Little Rock. But one recipient was Jason Luscier, who has chosen to give back to AAS by agreeing last spring to serve a two-year term as vice president. That means Jason was responsible for planning the fall meeting — registration, hotel accommodations, evening meals, speakers, field trips, etc.

Did I mention that Jason, a graduate student at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, is also working on his doctorate? Way to go, Jason.

Several recipients of past Trust grants attended the fall meeting and had graphic presentations of their research projects mounted outside the dining hall for everyone to see.

Donations to the Trust are 100 percent tax deductible. The Trust is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization as determined by the Internal Revenue Service. To make a donation, please make your check payable “AAS Trust” and mail to 804 Konrad Court, Little Rock, Ark. 72223-9201. Anyone wishing to make an anonymous donation to the Trust may do so by requesting anonymity.

Barry Haas
AAS Trust treasurer

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AAS Trust Donations – Aug. 20-Nov. 21, 2007

**Endowment-Memorial Fund**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donors</th>
<th>Donations</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lyndal and Carolyn York</td>
<td>In memory of Jack Parker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kim and Peggy Smith-Hot Springs Village AS Challenge</td>
<td>In memory of Erowyn Elizabeth Steinart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art and Martha Johnson-Hander Challenge</td>
<td>In honor of Robert and Barbara Shults, Lyndal York, Bill Shepherd, Dr. Ronald Williams and Barry Haas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eulalia and Carlos Araoz</td>
<td>and In memory of Edith and Henry Halberg, Anette and Herb Daniels, and Jack Hepinstall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max and Helen Parker</td>
<td>In memory of James Doster and Frances Sowards and Hot Springs Village AS Challenge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fred and Helen Hander</td>
<td>Hot Springs Village AS Challenge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Craig and Dale Provost</td>
<td>Hot Springs Village AS Challenge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philomena and Gordon Cox</td>
<td>Hot Springs Village AS Challenge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dan Scheiman</td>
<td>Hot Springs Village AS Challenge</td>
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Honors for past president

During the fall conference, DeLynn Hearn was thanked for her contributions to the Arkansas Audubon Society. She has served as conservation chairman, vice president, president and is immediate past president.


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Memorials to General Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donors</th>
<th>Donations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art and Martha Johnson</td>
<td>In memory of Jack Parker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. DeLynn Hearn</td>
<td>In memory of James Doster</td>
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Roger McConnell photo
2007 Arkansas Christmas Bird Counts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CBC</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Compiler</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arkadelphia</td>
<td>Dec. 15</td>
<td>Max Parker</td>
<td>(501) 252-6589</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayou Deview</td>
<td>Dec. 19</td>
<td>Steve Osborne</td>
<td>(501) 513-4479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Lake</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Allen Reams</td>
<td>(870) 763-8582</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo River</td>
<td>Dec. 15</td>
<td>Mark Robinson</td>
<td>(870) 449-4311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conway</td>
<td>Dec. 15</td>
<td>Martha Johnson</td>
<td>(501) 329-5214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crooked Creek Val.</td>
<td>Dec. 19</td>
<td>Sally Jo Gibson</td>
<td>(870) 741-5805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fayetteville</td>
<td>Dec. 16</td>
<td>Joe Neal</td>
<td>(479) 521-1858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Smith</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Bill Beall</td>
<td>(501) 738-1802</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holla Bend</td>
<td>Dec. 20</td>
<td>Leif Anderson</td>
<td>(501) 284-3402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hot Springs Village</td>
<td>Dec. 17</td>
<td>Lynn Sackett</td>
<td>(501) 922-9060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois Bayou</td>
<td>Dec. 16</td>
<td>John Andre</td>
<td>(501) 284-3150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonesboro</td>
<td>Dec. 14</td>
<td>Jim Bednarz</td>
<td>(870) 972-3082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Rock</td>
<td>Dec. 29</td>
<td>Dan Scheiman</td>
<td>(501) 244-2229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lonoke</td>
<td>Dec. 16</td>
<td>Dan Scheiman</td>
<td>(501) 244-2229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magnolia</td>
<td>Dec. 15</td>
<td>Sterling Lacy</td>
<td>(870) 234-4910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Home</td>
<td>Dec. 17</td>
<td>Sharon Bostright</td>
<td>(870) 430-5335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pine Bluff</td>
<td>Dec. 28</td>
<td>Rob Doster</td>
<td>(505) 323-3660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texarkana</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Don Kyle</td>
<td>Not Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village Creek</td>
<td>Dec. 19</td>
<td>Vicki Trimble</td>
<td>(870) 238-9406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wappapocca NWR</td>
<td>Dec. 29</td>
<td>Dick Preston</td>
<td>(901) 837-3360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White River</td>
<td>Jan. 6</td>
<td>Keith Sutton</td>
<td>(501) 847-9643</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conference from Page 1

They are:

Leesia Marshall-Rosenberger, University of Arkansas, $1,200, for research on the Louisiana Waterthrush of the Upper Buffalo National River and its relationship to a changing riparian habitat.

Jeff Kimmons, UofA, $1,000, for study of Arctic, Common and Roseate tern diets in the Gulf of Mexico.

Maureen McClung, UofA, $700, for research on the response of avian populations to oak decline in the Ozarks.

Jason Luscie, UofA, for study of population dynamics of wintering Rusty Blackbirds.

Luscie announced that the spring conference will be April 25-27 at the new Janet Huckabee River Valley Nature Center in Fort Smith. The fall 2008 conference will be Oct. 24-26 at DeGray Lake Resort State Park at Bismarck.

Following the tally of birds seen on the field trips — a total of 118 species — and announcements concerning field trips for Sunday, the conference was adjourned.

AAS board meeting

During the Friday executive board meeting, the Ruth Thomas Scholarship was discussed. The scholarship has not been used recently, and the board decided to pursue candidates for it.

Because Joe Neal, a member of the AAS Trust Board, has assumed the duties of curator, he is required to vacate his position on the Trust. Members of the Trust cannot serve as members of the AAS Board. Dan Scheiman has agreed to fill the vacancy on the Trust.

The board also discussed the seriously declining membership of the AAS.

Information for this story was taken from conference minutes by Barbara Baker, AAS secretary.

Thanks for service to AAS

Rob Doster, right, accepts an Arkansas Traveler Certificate signed by Gov. Mike Beebe. Jason Luscie, AAS vice president, presented the certificate following Doster’s program at the Friday evening session of the AAS fall conference. Doster, who has served as AAS president and webmaster, attended the first session of the AAS Halberg Ecology Camp in 1980.
Names and addresses of legislators, AAS officers and chairmen

Senators and Congressmen

AAS Officers
President: Jack Stewart, P.O. Box 632, Jasper 72641, (870) 715-0260, E. jampack1@mac.com.
Vice President: Jason Luscie, E. jluscie@uark.edu
Secretary: Barbara Baker, 29 Pandilla Way, Hot Springs Village 71909, (501) 922-6077, E. mbaker@suddenlink.net
Treasurer: Terry Butler, (501) 728-3540, P.O. Box 313, Pangburn 72121, E. twbutter@alltel.net.
Editor: Dolores Harrington, (870) 246-2729, 8 Western Hills Drive, Arkadelphia 71923
Curator: Joe Neal, 601 Science-Engineering Bldg., University of Arkansas, Fayetteville 72701, E. joeneal@uark.edu
Immediate Past President: DeLynn Hearn, (501) 771-4686, 317 W. K St., N. Little Rock 72116, E. delynnhearn@iwon.com

Committee Chairmen
Conservation: Allan Mueller, E. akcmueller@gmail.com
Education: Vacant
Finance and Webmaster: Lyndal York, (501) 663-2192, 42 Pine Manor Dr., Little Rock, E. lrybluejay@sbcglobal.net
Membership: Maury Baker, 29 Pandilla Way, Hot Springs Village 71909, (501) 922-6077, E. mbaker@suddenlink.net
News of Members: Leice K. Lacy, (870) 234-4910, 203 Troy Magnolia 71753, E. lklacy@magnolia-net.com
Publicity: Sally Jo Gibson, 512 Yorkshire Cove, Harrison 72601, E. sjgibson@alltel.net

AAS Trust
Chairman: Leif Anderson, P.O. Box 195, Hector 72843, (479) 284-3402, R. Leanderson@fs.fed.us
Treasurer: Barry Haas, (501) 821-4097, 804 Konrad Court, Little Rock 72223, E. bhaas@sbcglobal.net

AAS Halberg Ecology Camp
Executive director: Liz Fulton, 2705 N. Fillmore, Little Rock 72207, E. efulton114@sbcglobal.net
Co-Chairmen: Art Johnson, (501) 329-5214, 53 Meadowbrook Drive, Conway 72032, E. amjohnson@conwaycorp.net and B.J. Cutrell, 420 Valhalla Drive, Edgemont 72204, (501) 723-8484, E. bjc@artelco.com
Treasurer: Barry Haas, (address above)

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