



IAIN NICOLSON Audubon CENTER AT ROWE SANCTUARY

Crane River CHRONICLES

SPRING 2015



ROWE HAPPENINGS/NEWS

Crane Season

America's Greatest Migration was once again a great success! The sounds and sights of cranes and other birds are truly a testament to the great support that Audubon's Rowe Sanctuary receives from all of you. Each year, during the migration we can all celebrate the amazing spectacle and the people that make it possible. You are protecting, improving and expanding the areas on the Platte River critical to the survival of the cranes. You are helping us increase the number of people that care about and take action for our natural world. We celebrate this success with people from around the world at the only place on earth where this many cranes gather. Because of you the future looks bright for the cranes and our natural world.

All My Rowdy Friends—*Bill Taddicken*

Each spring when the cranes start to arrive it always makes me think of that Hank Williams Jr. song. The sky is filling with cranes and the air is full of their sound. All my rowdy friends are coming over this spring so let the party begin!! There is much singing and dancing. Friendship and love is in the air. Families are reuniting and new ones are starting, and that is not just the cranes. The sounds of celebration are everywhere. Spring is coming and life is returning to the land.



The party on the Platte was once again amazing. Reflecting on this season, a half million guests stopped by on their way from their winter home in the south heading to their summer home in the northern parts of this continent but the rest came to the party from all around the world. If you didn't make the party this year I want to invite you to take some time each spring to join in this celebration of nature and the success all of you are making possible. See you soon!!

Bill Taddicken

Calendar of Events

p.2

Education

p.3

Donors

p.4

Volunteerism

p.7



Above | A view of the cottage kitchen

Below | Migration in process



Iain Nicolson Audubon Center at Rowe Sanctuary Newsletter

The Iain Nicolson Audubon Center at Rowe Sanctuary newsletter is written especially for you. We would like to get your feedback and suggestions on the newsletter content, layout, timeliness, and frequency. Please go to this link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RoweSanctuary> and complete a brief survey. Thank you for your input!

2015 Sandhill Crane Migration



ROWE HAPPENINGS CONTINUED

Celebration! – *Becky Evers*

Every spring, over a half a million cranes converge on the Platte River, creating a wildlife spectacle like none other in the world. Iain Nicolson Audubon Center at Rowe Sanctuary is situated in the heart of this world-class wildlife spectacle.

In 2009, the Stewardship Board held the first ever Celebration event to highlight the programs at Rowe Sanctuary to prospective members of the Braided River Society. The Braided River Society is a group of donors from around the world who are committed to preserving this precious resource for generations to come. Members of the Braided River Society donate \$500 or more annually to support Rowe Sanctuary's conservation programs.

As chair of the Stewardship Board, it has been my pleasure to be a part of the incredible sights and sounds of the 2015 Sandhill Crane Migration.

If you were not able to join us this year, please consider a gift to support Rowe's conservation program. You may send your gift to Rowe Sanctuary or donate online at <https://give.audubon.org/Giving/Page/128/1/128>. To designate your gift to "Celebration",

please enter "Celebration" in the last name field of "Honoree/Memorial" area when submitting your online gift or write "Celebration" on the memo line of your check.

For more information, please contact Iain Nicolson Audubon Center at Rowe Sanctuary at (308) 468-5282.



Do you have a CD maturing soon?

With recent rates as low as 0.65% for Certificates of Deposit (CDs), you may be disappointed with your return. If you want to reinvest, you may want to consider a gift that pays you annual income through Audubon's Pooled Income Fund (current yield is 4.1%) or a Charitable Gift Annuity (4.7% to 9% based on your age). Contact us for more information on finding the right type of gift for you, Melissa Filipi at mfilipi@audubon.org or (402) 797-2301 or Shari Kolding at (512) 236-9076.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



FAMILY PROGRAMS

A Naturally Good Time for Everyone! Future programming is listed below. For additional details and to verify dates, please give us a call at (308) 468-5282.

SOAR

JUNE 15-18 OR JUNE 22-25

SOAR (Summer Orientation About Rivers) Camp is a nature day camp where children can learn about the Platte River and other natural areas in and around Buffalo and Kearney Counties. Campers take part in a variety of activities that include natural and physical science, language arts, history, agriculture, music and art, while having fun. SOAR is for any student presently in grades 2 through 5. Call Tess Bruner at (308) 216-0636 or email tbruner@audubon.org for more information.

FLYING HIGHER

JUNE 10-11

Flying Higher is a hands-on, ecology camp geared for kids presently in grades 6 through 8. This camp will take campers into the realm of scientific surveys and identification with a huge dose of fun. Financial aid is available for qualified applicants. Please call Keanna Leonard at (308) 468-5282 or email kleonard@audubon.org for more information.

AUDUBON NEBRASKA

Letter from State Director - Marian Langan

Greetings! I offer a sincere and heartfelt THANK YOU to all of our volunteers! The impact we are able to have by reaching so many people during crane season would not be possible without the dedication of this group.

As is ever the case, the conservation successes we deliver for birds and habitat year after year are the result of community leadership. Our Board members, volunteers, donors, and chapter members are the people who actually make this all possible. The power of people to make a difference in the world has never changed, and we have the great good fortune to see that in action every single day.

We entered 2015 with more potential than ever to make a difference. Last year we reached more people and positively

affected more habitat at our Center sites than ever. In addition to that, this year we are building a new partnership to improve grassland bird habitat in the Sandhills, leading a legislative effort to improve conservation in the Niobrara Scenic River Corridor, working with local chapter members to meet with Congressman Fortenberry about the needs for leadership regarding climate change, and we brought Audubon's climate initiative director, Joe Ryan, to speak and meet with members at our crane festival (held March 19-22).

There is an important place in these efforts for each and every one of you. Please join us. You'll be glad you did!

Marian Langan



EDUCATION/OUTREACH

Keanna Leonard

Last year in the early morning darkness, I sat back and observed students experience for the first time a sunrise on the Platte River full of sandhill cranes. With quiet wonder and awe, they watched the eastern sky turn blush pink, orange then gold. They began to see cranes wake and greet the new day while a low clamor grew in intensity. As the sun slowly climbed above the horizon, students could see small family groups start to separate from the flock and take their morning walk before leaving for the fields for the day.

All of a sudden, one of the students caught sight of an eagle soaring overhead. The cranes also noticed the predator and alarm calls reverberated throughout the flock. The sound became deafening. Then on some unheard signal, thousands of cranes lifted at once into the sky. The rise collectively took everyone's breath away.

Those gasps from the students went far beyond that moment. That very moment is when each and every student made an intimate connection to the river and the cranes. How do I know? I get to read poems and stories like this one from students who have had the opportunity to experience the cranes:

Cranes on the Platte
I see stillness in the dark.
Shadows slowly rising, their eyes meet mine.
Suddenly, it's light
I see them fully now, I think how?
I hear the rushing winds,
But suddenly, it's quiet.
Again, I see it.
I smell the water,
the air,
and it.
I feel winded from this amazing sight.
It is too beautiful to imagine.
I wonder how this glorious creature ended up here?

Kearney Public Schools 5th Grade Student

If we want our grandchildren's children to experience the river and the cranes, it is imperative to connect this generation of students to the natural world through first-hand experiences such as these. The connection cannot be made through books, television or the internet. It must be hands-on, get the feet wet, personal experiences. Nothing less.

That early morning as I listened to those students, I knew once again I was listening to the voices of the future and I liked what I heard. Those students were now on a journey of becoming our next generation of conservation leaders.



DONOR LIST

BRAIDED RIVER SOCIETY

There is a one-of-kind wildlife resource in North America; a prairie river made up of braided channels flowing around shifting sandbars. There are one half million sandhill cranes and several endangered species that depend on this river. **There is a growing group of people from around the world who are committed to preserving this precious resource for generations to come...The Braided River Society.**

CRANE RIVER

\$25,000+

Margery A. Nicolson, PhD

WHOOPIING CRANE

\$10,000-\$24,999

Eleanor and Harold Hamilton
Duncan and Janice McGregor
Ms. Julie M. Schroeder

SANDHILL CRANE

\$5,000-\$9,999

Don and Judy Brockmeier
Ms. Katheryn Russi

BALD EAGLE

\$2,500-\$4,999

Jon and Leslie Abegglen
Mike and Becky Evers
Ms. Heather Beth Henson

Kay Horner
Helen Kenefick

Dr. Walter and Jennifer Martin

Jim and Kathleen McKenzie
Ron and Judy Parks
Greg and Nancy Williams

PIPING PLOVER

\$1,000-\$2,499

Thomas and Lynn Ashby
Sue Barlow
John H. Davidson and Cathy F. Beard

Charles and Marilyn Bicak

Roger Neil and Marla Bouton
Linda Brown

Mr. Martin Brown

Fiona and Marvin Caruthers
Thomas Crusse

Jacy and Darrell Dunham

Alice and Michael Epstein
Dr. Diane Gilles and Dr. Stephen C. Johnson
Charlotte Griswold

Stephen and Jennifer Homan

Joel and Jill Johnson

Deb and Charlie Knudsen

LeRoy and Donna Kuta

Marian Langan

Geoff Kronik and Imin Lee

Linda K. Miller

Carylann Mucha

Robert and Diane Mutchie

Diana Nevins

Patti and Tom Peterson

Dean and Trudy Plautz

Robert and Linda Price

Robert and Jane Pricer

Charles and Patricia Punelli

Richard and Lisa Reichman

Donna and Robert Royer

Alice Rumery

Sue and David Skidmore

Michael and Janice Smith

Bill and Autumn Taddicken

Ralph and Vicki Tate

William and Joan Truhlsen

Naseem Munshi and Michael Tupper

Carol Wahl

David and Lorma Wiebe

Chris Wright

Rob and Susan Ahlschwede

MEADOWLARK

\$500-\$999

Roger Beck and Eric Anderson

Mote and Patti Andrews

Helen Arnold

Ed and Mary Berglund

Don and Judy Bishop

Mrs. Walter F. Brissenden

John Brotherton

Debra and John Burg

Gregg Campbell

Bill and Michelle Cita

Stan and Carol Dart

Joyce Davis

David and Ann Duey

Jerry and Nancy Duncan

Bill Dunn

Marsha Fangmeyer and James Wiest

LaJean Firminhac

Nancy and Larry Forsberg

Lael Greenfield and Janet Wright

Carolyn Hall

George Happ and Christy Yuncker Happ

Mary and Larry Hill

Nancy McGregor-Jader and Andy Jader

David and Dawn Johnson

Roger and Rita Jones

Stephen and Nancy Jones

Thornton Jordan

Mr. David Kirkland

Mr. and Mrs. Gene H. Koepke

Mr. Geoff Kronik

Kam-Ching and Yvonne Leung Leung

Dan and Carol Lindstrom

Maxine Mandell

Kathleen Hawkins and Charles Marn

Steve and Cyd Martin

Brian and Jane Moody

Paul Oberbroeckling and Becky Orr

Jim and Mary Pipher

Susan Raymond

Mary Roethemeyer

Leslie Roslund

James and Jean Sandrock

Linda Schmechel

Margaret Sharp

Gary and Jan Small

Kirk and Jennifer Summers

Ed Taddicken

Lois Tandy

Richard and Barbara Voeltz

Jim and Gloria Wiener

Robert and Donna Willey

Marianna Wimberley

Greg and Dina Wingfield

Rae Ellen Sverson and Carl Wolfe

Gerald Woods

Dr. John and Reven Wright

Kirby and Mary Zicafoose

***NEW MEMBERS IN BOLD**

Please consider joining this important group of people helping to create a legacy for the Platte River. By becoming a member of the Braided River Society, you will help safeguard this important national treasure and touch the lives of each person that experiences first-hand the amazing wonders of the natural world. Most importantly, you will be protecting the future of the Platte River. **Your gift makes a real difference. Please consider joining today!**

OUR SUPPORTERS

Rowe Sanctuary would like to thank everyone who has supported our work on behalf of cranes and other wildlife that depend on the Platte River and its associated ecosystems. The following gifts were received between July 1 – December 31, 2014.

\$250-\$499

Mote Andrews
Joseph Barsugli
Pamela Bergmann
Mrs. Katherine Bokenkamp
Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Carter
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Chambers
Mr. William S. Cita
Ms. Melissa J. Curtis
Mr. Ronald Ellermeier
Mrs. LaJean Firminhac
Larry and Nancy Forsberg
Mr. and Mrs. N. Richard Gershon
Ms. Vivian L. Guzniczak
Ms. Cindy Havekost
Mrs. Darcy Hess
Tobin and Cynthia Houlden
Ms. Kimberly Kracman
Tracy Lewandowski
Mr. and Mrs. Greg Linder
Ms. Diana Luscher
Ms. Shirley Marecak
Donna and Roger Milgrim
Mr. Brian C. Moody
Ms. Diana Nevins
Ms. Claire Oppenheim
Betty Paxton

Regina Phelps
Ms. Kay Rewerts
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Sear
Mr. and Mrs. Will L. Sheehan
Michael and Janice Smith
Sandra Swanson
Cynthia Tinkham-Shepherd
Ms. Brooke Triplett
Ms. Jane G. Wallower

\$100-\$249

Angela Anderson
Linda Andes-Georges
Anonymous
Pat Antonik
Marilyn Armstrong
Mrs. Barbara Barratt
Ms. Mary Ann Barton
Susan Bastek
Mitch and Katie Bean
Ms. Anne E. Beckett
Mr. Oliver Bennett
Mr. Dale E. Birkenholz
Ms. Ginny Black
Mr. and Mrs. Keith E. Blackmore
Dr. Charles and Christy Blend
James Bolick
Marilou G. Bork

Don and Judy Brockmeier
Scott and Susan Buffinch
DeVona Caha
David and Ann Catlin
Ms. Beverly N. Chinas
Noel Congdon
Jim and Judi Cook
Barbara Cunningham
William B. and Gretchen S. Cutts
Mr. and Mrs. William Daws
Carol Deardorff
Bill and Rosemary Draeger
Mrs. Mary E. Dueren
Dani J. Duffield
Ms. Frances Dwyer
Ms. Marilyn Eckles
Deborah Elliott
Mr. Phillip Erven
Ms. Marsha E. Fangmeyer
Thomas and Linda Farrell
Kay J. Fellows
Mr. Wayne Fithian
Ms. Mary Lee Fitzsimmons
Mr. Erik Foster
Mr. Thomas A. Friedlander
Mr. Bob Fullenkamp
Mr. and Mrs. James Ganz, Jr.

Wayne and Kathy Gappa
Ms. Janice Gaston
Mr. George James Gauthier
Ms. Georgia M. Glass
John Goellner
Leslie A. Gordon
Ms. Judith A. Gray
Frances Grobelny
Gaye Groene
Mr. Michael Gudall
Marilyn Bowen Hadley
Mr. Gary Hauptli
Ms. Susan Hauser
Ms. Susan E. Hazelwood
Mr. and Mrs. Reif J. Heck
Ms. Marie Helmsold
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Henszey
Mr. Robert Heyd
Mr. and Mrs. Doug Holmes
Ms. Patti Holmlund
Dolores Horton
Cody L. Hudson
Ms. Debbie Hunsberger
Ms. Beverly Irons
Ms. Elizabeth C. Janeway
Joel and Jill Johnson
Walter E Johnson

Mr. Roger L. Jones
Mr. John Jorgensen
Mr. and Mrs. Richard F. Kauders
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Kemp
Ms. Katherine Killen
Ms. Joyce Ann Kirstein
Ann C. Kitchel
Paul C. Klahr
Mary Korneman
Peter and Jane Kotsiopoulos
Mr. John Lamb
Jaime and Daniel Lane
Mr. Bruce Lauritzen
Frank Lawson
Ms. Carol Litchfield
Mary Anne Joyce and Catha Loomis
Mr. and Mrs. Erik Lundquist
John and Katie Macke
Mrs. Christine Mackie
Martin and Jane Maehr
Ms. Debra D. Mallory
Doretta Marwin
Chris and Erin Masada
Mrs. Janice McCoy-Miller
Arnold and Agnes Mendenhall
Mr. George Mereness
Sharon Mesle-Morain

Mr. James Meyers
Mr. Victor J. Miles
Dan Miller
Ms. Beverly Miller
Willis Miller
Ms. Ursula Muehllehner
Don And Jean Mueting
Ms. Julia G. Murphy
Ms. Martha Narey
Roger Neil and Marla Bouton
Ms. Robin Nelson
Biss Nitschke
Anne L Pahre
Mr. Phil Palen
Ed and Sil Pembleton
Mr. Randy Pfeifer
Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Pierce
Mr. James Pipkin
Charles W. Pippenger, Jr.
Robert and Jean Pollock
Mr. Keith Poyser
Ms. Elizabeth E. Presnail
Neva L. Pruess
Mr. Don Ralston
Jay Rasmussen
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Rathjen
Ms. Christine M. Robertsen
Paul Rockwell
Bonnie and Gene Rohrbeck
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Romano
Kathy Root
William and Jeanne Ross
Nancy Round
Ms. Carol J. Ruckel
Ms. Alice L. Rumery
Sandy Rusciolli
Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Schaepler,
DDS
Suzanne Scheller
David and Trixie Schmidt
Michael Schnieders
Mr. Kirk D. Schroeder
Katherine Schultz
James Shaw
Mr. and Mrs. John and Elizabeth
Shober
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Sitz
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sizemore
Mr. Dan Slawski
Ms. Joan Smith
Mrs. Karla Snively
Chris and Vicki Sommerich
Mrs. Janet Southern
Ms. Janet Sperry
Liz Stanley
Ms. Crystal Stratton
Ken Strom
Glenda Sturtevant
Irene S. Sullivan 2003 Trust
Joseph Sullivan
Kirk and Jennifer Summers
Mr. and Mrs. Dick Summers
Laura Sweets
Mr. Kenneth Tewell
Mr. James B. Thayer
Mark and Avril Thompson
Mr. Larry V. Thompson
Mrs. Nancy Thuma
Mr. Richard B. Tipton
Ms. Martha Tomecek
Eric and Molly Trettel
Mr. and Mrs. Rod Triplett
Mr. Jamie B. Vesay
Mr. Mark Vidor
Ms. Diana Wade
Ms. Holly Warth
Mr. and Mrs. James Weidman
John and Connie Wesley
Ms. Eleanor Whitaker
Danna Ackerman-White and Perry
White
Mr. and Mrs. Greg Wilde
Colin and Janet Wilke
Jack Williams
Ms. Jeannine Willison
Deb Wingfield

Mr. Gary Wooler
Mr. Paul Younes
Ms. Karin Zahorik
Ms. Janet Ziegler
\$1-\$99
Deborah Ady
Raylene J. Ahlgren
Mr. and Mrs. George Albin
Mr. Byron A. Almquist
Brigid Amos
Mr. Alan Angell
Charles Arand
Ellie Arden
Judith Armstrong
Kendall and Beverly Atkins
Suzanne Auckerman
Mr. Fil Bagwadia
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bailey
Mr. Fred Baker
Doris Banister
Connie Barger
Mr. James R. Barnett
Mr. Thomas Barnett
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Barr
William Batschelet
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Bengtson
Janis D. Berg
Ms. Patricia J. Birch
Ms. Cheryl Bishop
Ms. Lynette Black
Janet Blake
Ms. Glenda Blauch
Mr. Donald Blegen
Ms. Jude Blitz
Mr. Ron Boerner
Larry Boisclair
Catherine Bonnett
Clark Borchard
Claudette Borchers
Ms. Kathryn Borglund
Ms. Joyce Bork
Dallas Bosomworth
Geri Boucher
Mr. Robert Boyce
Kristy K Bradley
Mr. Timothy Brandy
Robert Brass
Mr. Joseph Brewster
Kate and Robert Brooke
Mr. Steven L. Brown
Ms. Denise Brozek
Clyde and Catherine Brubaker
Ms. Anne Bruce
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Brummer
Donna Bruner
Ms. Patricia K. Burchard
Barbara Burgess
Connie Burkepile
Norm and Chris Byrd
Ms. Christine Franz Cannon
Janet Carlson
Mr. Lyle F. Carpenter
Mr. James A. Carter
Ms. Diana W. Centorino
Lowell Chappell
Charles Chase
Kristen A. Christensen
Darrell Christensen
Megan Christenson
Catherine Christiansen
Dennis and Sheila Christopherson
Muriel Mae Cisar
Mr. James Clark
Ms. Maryanne B. Clark
C. Coffin
Richard Coil
Glenn and Dixie Colson
Lillian M. Connelly
Veronica Cook
Mr. Daniel Coren
Shirley Dettmer
Ms. Ruth Diehl
Mr. Gaylord L Dold
Ralph Doty
Joe and Alice Doyle

Mr. and Mrs. James Doyle
Dr. and Mrs. Almond Drake
Julie Druery
Bob and Joanne Dulski
Mrs. Karen M. Dvorak
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew B. Dwyer
Beverly Eastman
Gary Eckhardt
Ms. Judith A. Edgar
Mrs. Diane Ellis
Jarald Elvers
Patricia Emmons
James Ephgrave
Ms. Judy Erickson
Ms. Gail P. Ewin
Mr. Tory Ewubg
Carolee Fauth-Brooks
William Felker
Mr. Seth Felton
Mr. Harold Fick
Ms. Patria G. Fielding
Ms. Betsy Finch
John R. Finkner
Gwen and Stan Fischer
Julie B. Fischer
Ms. Ellen Fisher
Ms. Julie Flaherty
Ms. Sue Flammia
David Foster-Bates
Bruce Fowler
Jill Fuchtman
Ms. Patricia Gabriel
Mr. Thomas Gallagher
Mr. John E. Garceau, Jr.
Ms. Marlene H. Gatz
Mr. Arthur Geller
Peter Gent
Mr. and Mrs. Dave Gerdes
Ms. Gloria Gervais
Ms. Gigi Giacomara
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Gilbert
Mr. and Mrs. Roman Glemba
Stephen and Donna Good
Jane Gortz
Mary Ava Gossman
Ms. Grace Grado
Ms. Gretchen Graff
Mrs. Ethel Grill
Mr. John Gundlach
Ms. Julie R. Guzzetta
Ms. Sherry Rose Haaf
Ms. Mary A. Hall
Ms. Marjorie Halvorson
Robin Hamilton
Dale E. Hammerschmidt
Ms. Alice Harris
Mr. Edgar S. Harvey, Jr.
Ms. Ruth L. Hass
Randy Henwood
Theresa Hernandez
Mr. and Mrs. Terry Hiatt
Ms. Barbara Higdon
Margaret Hines
Mr. Gary Hoewe
Lewise Hopkins
Ms. Karen Houghton
Steven Huff
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hummelshelm
Ms. Jane E. Hurtig
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Incremona
Mr. Todd M. Jensen
Mr. Gregg Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Johnson
Ms. Linda Johnson
Linda Johnson
Warren Jones
Miriam Karmel
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Katus
Ms. Catherine Keane
Kearney Visitors Bureau
Ms. Mary Kelly
Mrs. Martha F. Kendall
Mr. Brad Kernick
Beverly J Kimball
Ms. Jean M King
Prof Clem Klaphake

Ms. Mary Ann Knoss
Mr. James Koelliker, PE
Sharon Konen
Ms. Paula Kramer
Donald Krieger
Mr. Carl Kremer
Mr. and Mrs. Hans Krimm
Ms. Lois Kruschwitz
Ms. Cynthia Krusell
K. Kay Labanca
Ms. Catherine Labio
Melanie Landry
Paula and Thomas Lapp
Mr. David Larson
Mr. Harlan Larson
Mr. Harry Levin
Denison S. Levy
Ms. Donna L. Libbey
Liberty Belles Friendship Club
Janiene Licciardi
Kathryn Lindsay
Beth Loney
Pam Luedke
Hugh MacPherson
Carl and Donna Manchester
Mr. James Manfull
Ms. Karen Marshall
Janice Martin
Ms. Joanne Mason
Barbara Matranga
Mrs. Martha Maxwell
Ms. Jacqueline M. Maxwell
Daniel and Mary McKinney
Judy Meester
Beth Melonuk
Ms. Tess Meuer
Ms. Linda Millemann
Dana Miller
Robbin Miller-Hawk
Lynne Mills
Mr. Jerry Minor
M. W. Mitchell
Mr. Steve Monteith
Ms. Jane Moore
Ms. Marta Moorman
James O. Morris
Mr. Jeff Mullen
Mr. Grant Newbold
Robert Newman
Betty Nicholas
Dr. Thomas Nicholls
Dr. Rev. Dr. Marilyn Niemeyer
Tom Nilsson
Ms. Bernice Nithman
Ms. Mary L. Norman
Wolfgang Oesterreich
Bonita Oliva
Dr. and Mrs. William Packard
Margot Paddock
Ms. Eileen Paine
Mr. Robert Parsons
Mr. and Mrs. Dave Patterson
Jan Pauley
Denis and Sarah Petersen
Ms. Marilyn Peterson
Pat Peterson
Lisa Pettitt
Mrs. Kyle Patterson Phillips
Ms. Kathy Pierce
Ms. Deb Piper
Mr. Don Poggensee
Mr. Frank Pommersheim
Joyce Porter
Mr. Kevin D Powers
Jean Prawl
Amalia Pugh
Ms. Kathleen Pyper
Dorothy Rabble
Suzanne Rauert
Mr. Rob Raun
Mr. Don Reeves
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Reinkordt
Ms. Linda Richards
Marilyn Rishel
Dick and Betty Ann Ritscher
Mr. and Mrs. Duane C. Roberts

Ms. Brenda Robeson
Mr. Don Rosedale
Evelyn Ross
Muriel Rost
Ben Rubin
Mr. Robert F. Russell
Ms. Sheila M. Sallen
Sheridan Samano
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Sanks
Felicia Santini
Averil I. Savery
Ms. Janet Schafer
Ms. Patrice Scheinost
Mary Schlauderaff
Ardyce Schoonover
W. E. Schrack, Jr.
Ms. Faye Schrater
Mrs. Sybil J. Schroeder
Henry F. Schumacher
Brenda Scott
Ms. Rebecca Seth
Mr. and Mrs. Grace Sexton
Priscilla Seymour
Carol Shaddy
Patricia Shank
Vicki Shank
Ms. Margaret W. Shutler
Ms. Barbara A. Silber
Thomas And Susan Siller
Terry and Kathy Simmons
Ms. Karen Sizer
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Snow
Ms. Karen Spahn
Mr. and Mrs. James Stapleton
Lesley Stavola
Mary Stearley
Ms. Ruth Stearns
Mary A Stefanski
Stacy Sternberg
Ms. Barbara Stevenson
Mr. and Mrs. Cecil R. Stewart
Mr. Mark Stoehr
Mr. Jack L. Stuber
Ms. Lois Stump
Ms. Lois Stump
Mrs. Melba Sullivan
Barbara Sullivan
Ellen Sundholm
Mr. and Mrs. Mark E. Sutherland
Mr. Richard Taylor
Ms. Marjorie Tello
Jeanne Thoreson
Ms. Margaret Thrasher
Mr. Perry Thuente
Mr. and Mrs. T. Scott Tibbels
Leland Trotter
L. Scott Tucker
Christina Usher
Laurel Van Ham
Mr. William Van Hoegarden
James B Vasile
Ms. Valerie Vetter
Mr. and Mrs. David Waldie
Ms. Lois Waldref
Michelle Warren
Forrest Weller
Ms. Frances Wheat
Ms. Peggy Wheelock
Jean Widdowson
Mr. Mark P. Widrechner
Ms. Lisa M Wiese
Barbara Wilkinson
Mr. Russell I. Williams
Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Williams
Mr. Dennis Willson
Mary Alice B. Wilson
Marianna Wimberly
Ms. Anna Winans
Mr. Jack C. Wolf
Carl Wolfe
Dena Woodman
Ms. Patricia Wright
Ms. Valerie F. Wright
Mr. Joseph Ycas
Susan Yeater
Winona Zwick

WHY DONORS CREATE LEGACY GIFTS

At Iain Nicolson Audubon Center at Rowe Sanctuary, we owe many of our successes – and in some ways even our very origins - to supporters who recognized a need, who shared our vision and our mission, and who chose to create their legacy by leaving us a gift in their will or other estate plans.

In 1974, a gift through her will from Lillian Annette Rowe of New Jersey funded the purchase of the original 782 acres, including 2.5 miles of river channel, wet meadows and some agricultural fields. An additional gift from Margery Nicolson as a legacy to her husband Iain and their commitment to conservation further provided for the needs and growth of Rowe Sanctuary.

There are many options to explore when considering which types of gift planning will best suit your needs. While some options may be complex, others are simple and can be done at little or no cost to the donor, like the bequest Lillian chose. Many supporters create a legacy through their wills or living trusts. A growing number of people are including us as beneficiaries on retirement plans or life insurance policies – an option that costs nothing, does not require an attorney, and does not lock you into a decision irrevocably. At Rowe Sanctuary, we recognize the importance of your legacy and will work with you to arrange a gift that suits your needs and desires while providing for the future of the tallgrass prairie.

Why do these people choose to make planned gifts to Rowe Sanctuary as part of their legacy?

There are a number of reasons, of course. Here are a few to consider:

1. A Positive Legacy. Creating an enduring legacy influences our succeeding generations and reminds them of our values and commitments.
2. Benefits To You And Your Heirs. Donors of planned gifts may choose from many types of gifts, including some that relieve your heirs of additional taxes. Most gifts are irrevocable with no minimum amount needed.
3. Perpetuate Annual Gifts. Planned gifts are a way to underwrite your own regular giving to Rowe Sanctuary. For example, a gift through your will or estate plan of \$20,000 could create an annual “gift” of \$1,000.
4. A Stronger Rowe Sanctuary. Gifts left through wills or other estate plans can be placed in a reserve fund that supplements our annual operating needs and helps us plan more confidently for the future.

If you would like to learn more about planned giving, please contact Melissa Filipi, Director of Philanthropy at mfilipi@audubon.org or (402) 797-2301.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE

There are many ways that you can help us fulfill our mission of conserving the Platte River and the birds that rely on it. Support of all types makes such a difference, with your help we can make the world a better place!

- Become a volunteer. Our volunteers are an important part of our successes. There are many opportunities available that can fit in to any schedule. We're happy to play "matchmaker" and find the perfect volunteer opportunity for your interests, skills, and time!
- Tell your friends and family about us! Raising awareness of our work opens many doors, and introduces a new group of volunteers, donors, and supporters to our mission.
- Donate. We rely on the generous support of our donors for the work that we do. We do not receive funding from any national organization. All money raised here, stays here. You can return a gift in the envelope provided, visit our website to donate online, or stop by our Education Center to make a gift in person.
- Commemorate a life event with a gift in honor or memory of friends, family, or occasions.
- Take a look at our wish list on page 8 for additional gift ideas.
- Become a monthly donor. You can provide regular, ongoing support for our work by visiting our website, rowe.audubon.org.
- Include us in your estate plans. There are several simple, flexible, tax-advantaged options that can benefit your heirs and Rowe Sanctuary at the same time.

CONTACT US

Iain Nicolson Audubon Center at Rowe Sanctuary
44450 Elm Island Rd
Gibbon, NE 68840

If you would like to receive the *Crane River Chronicles* electronically, email us at rowesanctuary@audubon.org or call (308) 486-5282.

PHONE: (308) 468-5282
EMAIL: rowesanctuary@audubon.org
WEBSITE: rowe.audubon.org
FACEBOOK: Rowe Sanctuary
TWITTER: @rowesanctuary

VOLUNTEERISM

Providing a Warm Welcome

Each spring, the Platte River hosts the world's largest gathering of Sandhill Cranes on their journey to northern nesting grounds. The convergence of half a million Sandhill Cranes and millions of migrating waterfowl and songbirds brings tens of thousands of visitors to central Nebraska to witness North America's greatest migration.

To serve the 15,000 visitors who come through our doors in during March and early April, over 100 volunteers donate around 4,500 hours at the Iain Nicolson Audubon Center at Rowe Sanctuary. These volunteers do everything from answering visitor's questions to guiding crane viewing trips to cleaning bathrooms.

Not only does their assistance allow Audubon to provide wildlife viewing experiences for thousands, volunteer workers also helps preserve funding for habitat management and year-round education programs. Our volunteers bring an enthusiasm and energy to their work that simply cannot be hired.

While many of the volunteer come from local communities near Rowe Sanctuary, others travel from places across the country. These long-distance volunteers are ambassadors for Audubon's work in the Central Flyway while they are here and when they return to their homes.

Rowe Sanctuary provides housing to these volunteer in exchange for their full-time volunteer effort. Some stay for a few days while others stay for a week or more. This year, the Iain Nicolson Audubon Center at Rowe Sanctuary received a grant to renovate and expand two older farm houses on the sanctuary to better accommodate volunteers. Construction on both homes began in December and wrapped up just as the first volunteers arrived for the 2015 Crane Migration.



While grant funding allowed Rowe Sanctuary to hire much of the construction work, volunteers did the lion's share of the work at the cottage (formerly known as the old farm house). A handful of dedicated folks gave over 1,000 hours to gut rooms, rebuild floors, install new lighting, paint, clean, and refurnish the cottage. We can't thank them enough!

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Housewarming Campaign

Help us furnish our newly refurbished volunteer and program lodging facilities with a gift to the Housewarming Campaign. Not only will these two facilities provide lodging for distance volunteers during crane season, they will also be used to lodge interns and researchers, for overnight nature programs, and as rental facilities for youth groups, families, and more.

We launched our fund drive with the hopes of raising \$10,000 and in three weeks we not only hit our goal but doubled it! These gifts have allowed us to purchase appliances, beds and bedding! We were so uplifted by your generosity that we aren't stopping there.

We are planning to continue our Housewarming Campaign

through April. Your gift will help us make more upgrades both inside and outside the Cottage and the Retreat.

Here are few examples of how your gift can help:

A gift of \$2,500 would help us update flooring.

A gift of \$1,000 would help furnish a living room.

A gift of \$500 would provide bed bug blocking covers for mattresses.

A gift of \$100 would provide eco-safe cleaning supplies.

A gift of \$50 would help purchase paint for the trim on the Cottage.

To designate your gift to the Housewarming Campaign, please type "Housewarming Campaign" in the last name field of "Honoree/Memorial" area when submitting your on-line gift or write "Housewarming Campaign" on the memo line of your check.

Thank you to these generous donors to the Housewarming Campaign:

Susan and Rob Ahlschwede, Ashley Furniture-Kearney, Duane and Clare Baylor, Cheryl Bishop, Bruce Furniture-Kearney, Bill and Gretchen Cutts, Marvin and Claudia De Jong, Rosemary and Bill Draeger, Becky and Mike Evers, Marilyn and Galen Hadley, Keith and Carol Haussler, Herberger's-Kearney, Ben and Christi Hirschfeld, Patti Holmland, Steve and Jeni Homan, Kay Horner, Deb Hunsberger, Jerry and Sharon Ingram, Jacobi Carpet One-Kearney, Cyndi and Steve King,

K-Mart-Kearney, Urban Lehner and Nancy Leonard, Dennis and Keanna Leonard, Michael Leonard, Dan and Carol Lindstrom, Diana Luscher, Caryl McHarney, Jim and Kathleen McKenzie, Linda Miller, Brian and Jane Moody, Nelson Furniture-Kearney, Grant Newbold, Roy John Nelson Construction, Margery Nicolson, Russell Appliances, Kathryn Russi, Sherwin-Williams-Kearney, Slumberland-Kearney, Mike and Jan Smith, Yaneth Soto, Ed Taddicken, Target-Kearney, Lynn Tennefoss, Wal-Mart-Kearney, Colin and Janet Wilke, Deb Wingfield.



Crane River
CHRONICLES

Iain Nicolson Audubon Center at Rowe Sanctuary
44450 Elm Island Road
Gibbon, NE 68840-4019

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 22
GIBBON, NE 68840

CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH NATURE

Crane Cam - To watch the crane cam, please go to <http://rowe.audubon.org/crane-cam>.

The mission of Rowe Sanctuary is to conserve Platte River ecosystems for cranes and other wildlife.



100% POST CONSUMER WASTE


IAIN NICOLSON Audubon
CENTER AT ROWE SANCTUARY

44450 Elm Island Road
Gibbon, NE 68840
Phone: (308) 468-5282
rowe.audubon.org

Open Monday - Friday 9 - 5; Sunday 1 - 4
Open 7 days a week Feb. 15 – April 15

Bill Taddicken - Director
Keanna Leonard - Education Director
Diana Luscher - Outreach Coordinator
Andrew Pierson - Director of Conservation
Kent Skaggs - Office Manager
Sharon Ingram - Gift Shop Manager

Audubon Nebraska

Marian Langan – Executive Director
Melissa Filipi – Director of Philanthropy
Carey Collingham - Corporate and Foundation Coordinator
Cindy Houlden – Donor Relations Coordinator

Stewardship Advisory Board

Rob Ahlschwede	Roger Jones
Susan Ahlschwede	Jennifer Martin
Ed Berglund	Janice McGregor
Charles Bicak	Brian Moody
Stan Dart	Margery Nicolson
Becky Evers	Carol Wahl
Jennifer Homan	Greg Williams

Rowe Wish List

Commercial Vacuum Cleaner
Samsung W300 HD Camcorder
Microphone/Sound System
Digital Projector
HDMI Ready Flat Screen TV
8 GB or larger SD photo cards
Adobe InDesign Software
iPad
ATV Trailer
\$5 Million Endowment



Thanks to all of you who have liked us on Facebook. Be sure to check out our page to see what's happening throughout the year.