

THE ICF BUGLE

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World Center for the Study and Preservation of Cranes

Six Countries Join North East Asian Crane Site Network

By Jim Harris, Deputy Director

The migrations of cranes have delighted and mystified people for millennia. Today's satellite tracking studies have changed neither the delight nor even that sense of mystery. Japanese researchers, working closely with colleagues in all the countries of north-east Asia, have traced these migrations by placing transmitters on the backs of cranes. Tiny transmitters, satellite receivers high above the earth, and the rapid communications of e-mail and the Internet have combined to reveal each stage in the migration. Researchers are identifying a chain of wetlands that support the journeys of cranes north and south. We know that the loss of even one link in the chain, one wetland, could threaten the entire migration and thus the cranes themselves.

The satellite studies have emphasized what we already realized: fragility of the ancient cranes in a modern world. But this dramatic research has helped inspire an international perspective, and thus new strategies for crane protection. As one outcome, crane conservationists have formed the North East Asian Crane Site Network, as part of the "Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy: 1996-2000." Through the network, six countries — Russia, Mongolia, China, North Korea, South Korea, and Japan — are working together to protect all links in the crane flyways.

The network was launched at Beidaihe, China in March 1997. The six countries formally nominated 18 wetlands to the network.



Ten thousand White-naped and Hooded Cranes winter at Izumi in southern Japan. Their future depends not only on conditions at Izumi, but upon the safety of a scattered network of wetlands that these cranes use for breeding and for resting on migration. Thus the cranes link Japan with the Korean Peninsula, China, and Russia. Photo by Yuzuru Akao.

**Website for the North East
Asian Crane Site Network:**

[http://www.kt.rim.or.jp/
~birdinfo/BL_news/
cranenet.html](http://www.kt.rim.or.jp/~birdinfo/BL_news/cranenet.html)

With funding from the Environment Agency of Japan, flyway officer Simba Chan guides efforts to link and strengthen collaboration among network sites. A Working Group has been formed to oversee network activities. The group includes representatives of the six countries and three experts (I serve on behalf of the IUCN Crane Specialist Group).

We held our first network meeting at the newly completed headquarters facility at Muraviovka Park in Amur Region of Russia. Satellite tracking has revealed that Muraviovka's breeding White-naped Cranes winter at Izumi in Japan. The workshop included staff members of the network reserve sites, many of them meeting

for the first time. The Working Groups set goals for upcoming activities, including coordinated winter counts of cranes, revision of color banding schemes for the region, and another meeting to occur in South Korea in January. Group members are linked by e-mail, and can be active in ways impossible even five years ago.

And yet we met in a wild setting, a lonely site not even reached by electricity. Outside the window, the timeless cranes defended wetland territories as they have done always. Satellites, e-mail, even our network's first newsletter in five languages, cannot change the mystery of those crane voices over the marsh.

The meeting at Muraviovka was sponsored by the Japan Fund for Global Environment, with my travel assisted by the Trust for Mutual Understanding.

An Eggcellent Turnout!

By Kate Fitzwilliams,
Public Relations Director

Celebrating ICF's 25th anniversary was easy with members like you. Over 700 people filled the historic A1. Ringling Theatre for ICF's Eggstravaganza, sponsored by Miller Brewing Co. And over 300 people made it to the Annual Dinner, making it the best attended Annual dinner in our 25 year history.

The Eggstravaganza was a spirited experience filled with storytelling and emotional testimonies. The talent on the stage was remarkable featuring people from our community, namely Nina Leopold Bradley, Gladys Scott, and Norm and Claire Sauvey. Added to the mix were Ojibway Elder Eddie Benton-Banai, UW Professor and African Storyteller Harold Scheub, and the Festival Choir of Madison. Thanks to Rob Nelson, Eggstravaganza Director, the show was flawless.

An emotional slide show set to music, and a 1982 Tonight Show excerpt featuring George Archibald and a Whooping Crane named Tex appeared larger than life on the



The A1. Ringling Theatre was buzzing with anticipation before the 7 p.m. Eggstravaganza. The local support of this evening was incredible. Photo by Kate Fitzwilliams.

ICF thanks all that attended and supported this memorable evening.

The enthusiastic response to our "members only" Saturday events was great to see. Field trips to Briggsville, the Aldo Leopold Shack, and an informative presentation about

the Lumbini Crane Sanctuary in Nepal allowed members to learn more about ICF's off-site interests and projects. The traditional Crane City and Restoration Tours were also popular and as always fun! The ICF Gift Shop had their best sales in history and Hooded Crane "Belmont," our newest flight demonstration bird, pulled off a perfect first show for an unsuspecting audience.

During the Annual Dinner, Board of Trustees President Mary Wickhem

was honored with a certificate for her hard work and dedication to ICF. As Board president, Mary has never missed a board meeting! We proudly presented this honor in front of 300 members.

Carl-Albrecht v. Treuentels, president of the World Wildlife Fund — Germany, was the keynote speaker for the evening. He shared his renowned crane photographs and perspectives on crane conservation. A special appearance by Axel Kleinschumacher,

Ojibway elder Eddie Benton-Banai of Hayward impressed the audience as he opened the show with a spiritual invocation. After performing a song about cranes, the Ojibway spiritual symbol, he talked about his hopes of a community that could reach a common feeling of respect for the land that humans and wildlife share. Photo by Tom Michelle, Baraboo News Republic Reporter.



Norm and Claire Sauvey received a standing ovation after they accepted The Good Egg Award for their continued dedication to ICF. Their belief and trust in their son Ron, were critical to the formation of ICF: they charged Ron and George \$1 a year to rent part of their farm as the first home for ICF. Gladys Scott, during her presentation earlier in the evening, reminded her friends, Norm and Claire, that they were patient landlords... allowing the boys to accumulate a debt that grew to \$9! The Sauvey's continued good nature, generosity and spirit are why they are the special 25th anniversary "Good Egg." ICF Photo.

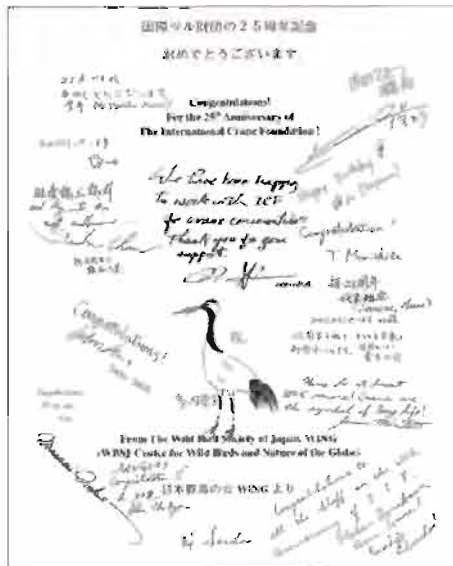
A1. Ringling movie screen. Rochelle Robkin, Baraboo art teacher and long-time ICF member, directed a group of Baraboo youngsters in three crane vignettes featuring dance and folklore. It was a delightful closing to a charming evening.



Public Relations Director for ICF's official airline, Lufthansa, was icing on the cake.

The table decorations featuring native plants from ICF's prairie were put together by ICF's Librarian Betsy Didrickson, Board Member Sara Bolz, and member Jan Hoffman. ICF members Virginia Metcalf and Mary Yeakel also helped deck the hall by displaying their Victor Bakhtin painting, "A Vision for the Future," an inspiration for prairie restoration.

Kudos to ICF employees and volunteers whose hard work and patience made the event a true success.



Many wonderful friends and colleagues who couldn't join us for the 25th anniversary celebration sent congratulatory messages via air and e-mail! Unfortunately, we do not have the space to share all of the sweet notes, drawings, birthday songs and positive cheers for 25 more years. Instead we will share a part of Noritaka Ichida's message from the staff of the Wild Bird Society of Japan.



A Sacred Treasure

By George Archibald, Director

Mary Burke, has been one of the cranes' best friends since shortly after ICF "hatched" twenty-five years ago.

Raised in St. Paul, Minnesota, her deep love for nature was nurtured during childhood summers at her parents' Forest Lodge beside Namekogan in Wisconsin's north woods.

As an extension of this interest in nature, Mary and her late husband Jackson became enthralled with Japanese art where simplicity and nature are prominent themes. Over the years they created one of the world's great Japanese art collections. This collection has been exhibited at leading museums around the world including New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art in 1975. And now the Met

Mary first visited us in 1977, when ICF was at the Sauey farm. It was a rainy day but everyone's spirits were up. Mary was fabulous running with the chicks, laughing and using her raincoat as wings. Photo by Eleanor Briggs.

plans to feature the Burke Collection as its millennial highlight. Mary has had full art exhibitions at five museums in Japan including the Tokyo National Museum where her collection was the only western collection ever shown. The Government of Japan bestowed on Mary one of its most prestigious honors, officially declaring her a "Sacred Treasure" of Japan and presenting her with a coveted medal.

In oriental art, cranes often represent the auspicious qualities of long life, good luck and happiness. During a trip to Japan in 1976 to collect art, Mary first met the real Red-crowned Cranes.

On her return, Mary was surprised to discover a breeding center for Red-crowned Cranes in central Wisconsin. The following summer on a visit to ICF, Mary helped exercise the crane chicks by running with them across the lawn. Subsequently, both Mary and the Mary Livingston Griggs and the Mary Griggs Burke Foundation have been among ICF's most faithful supporters.

In ancient times, Chinese scholars often had pet cranes. Mary sometimes hinted that perhaps ICF could spare her one of our friendly beauties. We settled instead for quality times with the wild Sandhills on the Platte River and the Wattled Cranes on the Okavango Delta in Africa.

I am certain that all who appreciate cranes and fine art will join us in expressing our sincere gratitude to a great lady who has done so much to preserve both living and depicted cranes.

ARE YOU CONSIDERING A YEAR END GIFT?

By Bob Hallam, Development Coordinator

Gifts of cash are the most popular way of contributing to ICF. The actual out-of-pocket cost is less than the dollar amount of the gift because of the allowable income tax deduction. The top limit for deductibility of cash gifts in most cases is 50% of the contributor's adjusted gross income.

Another popular way of giving to ICF is donation of appreciated securities. Gifts of long-term appreciated securities are often more advantageous to the contributor than outright gifts of cash. Gifts of appreciated stocks or bonds entitle a contributor to two benefits: there is no capital gains tax pay-

able, and the contributor may use the fair market value of the securities on the date of the gift to compute the income tax charitable deduction.

Contributors who give appreciated securities may claim a charitable deduction of up to 30% of their adjusted gross income in the gift year, with carry-over of any excess deduction for up to five succeeding tax years.

If you have any questions regarding donating appreciated securities, please contact your broker or Bob Hallam, Development Coordinator at ICF, 608-356-9462.

Collecting the Spirit of the Cranes

By Mary Griggs Burke

*A*s I grew up in close touch with nature in northern Wisconsin, I was attracted to and eventually collected antique Japanese art. Living with this art, in turn, strengthened my understanding and love of nature. Since the beginning of their culture and even after industrial growth destroyed much of their landscape and the habitat of their native creatures, Japanese artists have been keen observers of nature. They captured in ink and color the spirit not only of mountains, forests and rivers but also of the animal kingdom. One of Japan's most popular nature themes is the crane.

I have many crane paintings but no favorites because each



Family of Cranes



Cranes

artist represents his individual feeling in his work, giving new insights into these magnificent birds. Cranes are depicted in many formats from hanging scrolls to screens. I have chosen examples of the latter, as I believe they give the artist the best chance to express his emotions about the birds.

This summer I received from Japan a stunning pair of screens that depicted both the Red-crowned and the White-naped Cranes against a gold background standing on sandbars



in a lighter shade of gold (*Cranes*). The artist is Ishida Yūtei (1721-1786) who created his own style by combining the elements of several schools. While not realistic, the screens accurately convey a sense of agitated movement. The birds may be about to take off or perhaps to start dancing. The patterns made by their great extended wings and twisted necks impress and excite me.

The other pair of screens (*Family of Cranes*), also recently purchased, was painted by Nagasawa Rosetsu (1754-1799) a pupil of Maruyama ŌKyo (1733-1795) who had been a pupil of Yūtei. ŌKyo influenced Rosetsu to use western realism. Rosetsu took this realism as a point of departure in the formulation of a unique style that is both satirical and eccentric. My delightful pair of his two paneled screens is an excellent example. The anthropomorphic qualities of his Red-crowned Cranes are highly amusing. These birds have definite human personalities.

I hope that these spirited works of art will whet the reader's appetite to see not only more paintings of Japanese art but also more living cranes.



Screens courtesy of the Mary and Jackson Burke Foundation. Photos by Bruce J. Schwarz.

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Contributions

Received July through September, 1998



Lufthansa
ICF's Official Airline

ICF membership has grown so much that we've run out of room to acknowledge all associate members in each issue. Therefore we will now recognize new associate memberships only. Please remember that continuing support of all our members, including associates, is vital to our work for the cranes!

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 Pat McDonald;
 George & Lee Nordstrom;
 Kent & Veerle Ullberg, Jr.;
 Kareh Weucker!

1998 Bird-a-Thon Breaks Records

By Bob Hallam,
Development Coordinator

ICF's Tenth Annual Bird-a-thon raised over \$24,000 for the Ron Sauey Conservation Fund and ICF operations - another record total and a 14% increase over 1997! Income from the Sauey Fund supports the Ron Sauey Memorial Library for Bird Conservation. Over the past ten years, approxi-

mately \$180,000 has been raised. We wish to thank all who participated this year.

First place and grand prize went to Cathryn Steuer. Cathryn won a Louis Paul Jones elephant sculpture worth \$4,900, donated by Lands' End of Dodgeville, Wisconsin. Second place went to Judy Bautch, with Michael John Jaeger taking third. All top three finishers received a framed print by Owen Gromme entitled "Rose Breasted Grosbeak."

The other top-scoring teams were Viola White (4th), Richard Straka (5th), William

Ebbott (6th), Tom Schmidt (7th), David & Geri Vander Leest (8th), Judie Hermesen (9th), and Carla and Dale Oestreich (10th). Each team received a pair of 7x35 Aerolite binoculars by Swift. All who counted birds and raised money also received an eight-can cooler, decorated with all 15 crane species and donated by Kooler Kraft International, of Norcross, GA.

We wish to thank Chuck Brei of Meuer Art of Madison, Wisconsin for donating and framing the Gromme prints and Don Sauey of Kooler Kraft for donating the coolers.

A LASTING MEMORY

Tom and Mary Miron have honored their step-father, Ivan Luck, with a stunning oak bench that will be permanently placed at ICF. The engraved bench, crafted by Terry Schlick of Black Earth, WI, will be located in front of the ICF library adding even more beauty to the present landscape. It was important to the Miron's to have this



After Mary Miron (left), her brother Tom and his wife Zoe, delivered the Ivan Luck bench, they tried it out and gave it their official seal of approval. We'd like to thank Tom and Zoe Miron, Mary Miron and her husband Gene Summers and the friends and family of Ivan Luck for their work in creating another memorial that allows the Luck spirit to be shared with all who visit ICF. Photo courtesy of Zoe Miron.

memorial close to the chick exercise yard where the Muriel Luck shelter stands. Ivan and Muriel were Baraboo residents who loved the work ICF was doing and took pride in having ICF in their own "backyard."

The **ICF Bugle** is the quarterly newsletter for members of the International Crane Foundation (ICF).

Editor: Kate Fitzwilliams

Memberships are vital to ICF. Please join or give a membership to a friend at the following annual rates:

- Student or Senior Citizen** \$20
- Individual** \$25
- Foreign** \$30
- Family** \$35
- Associate** \$100
- Sponsor** \$500
- Patron** \$1,000



A Big Thanks...

...to the Estate of Henry Firestone, H.B. Firestone and Mr. Jeffrey R. Firestone for making our Education Department's wish come true by donating a motorized three-wheeled scooter. Many visitors have used it, making their time at ICF more enjoyable.

The Crane Conservation Department would also like to extend their gratitude to all of the volunteers who cleaned out Crane City (ICF's captive breeding facility). This major fall event ran smoothly due to your hard work.

ICF Wish List

Anyone interested in donating these items please contact Deputy Director Peter Murray at 608-356-9462.

Baby Changing Stations
Van with low mileage
TV & TV Stand
Dishwasher
PALS VCR



The 1999 Platte River Field Trip

Every spring for thousands of years, Sandhill Cranes have gathered at the Platte River in Nebraska. Imagine being there and listening to a cry of a crane turn into a deafening crescendo as the sky darkens filling with flocks upon flocks of Sandhill Cranes. Every crane lover should experience this spectacular scene and ICF is making it very easy for you to do just that.

On the week days of March 23-26, and on the weekend of March 26-28, 1999, two groups of lucky ICF members will witness this spectacle under the best possible circumstances. After 15 years of spring visits to the Platte River, Jim Rogers (ICF member, volunteer and crane conservationist) has designed a trip that puts participants in control of their own crane watching adventures. Jim will escort participants to the best blinds on the river to enjoy dawn and dusk viewing of cranes as well as great spots along the river to watch cranes going to roost.

Through extensive orientation materials, and briefings on current conditions, time is not wasted as participants can literally "hit the ground running" when they get to Nebraska. Participation will be limited to the first dozen applicants for each trip. The three-night weekday trip will cost \$375 per person (add \$75 for single occupancy), and the two-night weekend trip will cost \$310 per person (add \$50 for single occupancy). Fees cover lodging in Kearney, Nebraska, full breakfasts, blind space, orientation materials, and a tax-deductible contribution to ICF. Transportation is not included, nor are lunches and dinners. For more information please contact Kate Fitzwilliams at ICF (608) 356-9462. Or to reserve your place, send Kate a \$75 non-refundable deposit check payable to the International Crane Foundation.

Photos by Mark Romesser

Click and Connect

Check out our website:

www.baraboo.com/bus/icf/whowhat.htm

• Around the World in 60 Days! George Archibald, ICF's director, will be traveling to Thailand, Bhutan, Nepal, India, Iran, Germany, and France in November and December this year. You can follow his travels, without the jet lag, and read about his adventures on ICF's website. Just click on "online Travel adventures," for George's trip reports and crane updates.

• An Exciting Partnership! During spring semester, 1999, ICF will be presenting several case studies for a University of Wisconsin-Madison graduate seminar titled, "Conservation Biology and Sustainable Development." ICF's presentations will focus on projects where we strive to integrate conservation and development. These ICF presentations will be open to the public. We encourage you to attend. Just click "UW-ICF Seminars" for details.

Looking for a wild holiday gift? Order your

1999 CRANE CALENDARS

featuring the exquisite art of Anderson Yang. Just fill out the order form and send it to ICF c/o Calendar Sales P.O. Box 447 Baraboo, WI 53913-0447

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A Tribute to China's Great Ornithologist

By George Archibald, Director

Professor Cheng Tso-hsin, China's foremost ornithologist and an active member of ICF's Board of Advisors, passed away in Beijing at the age of 92. It was Professor Cheng who first invited me to visit China in 1979, the first "outside" guest at the Institute of Zoology since the end of the devastation of the Cultural Revolution. It had been many years since he had an opportunity to speak to outsiders and he profusely apologized for his "rusty English."



Professor Cheng and his wife Lydia in 1997. Photo by Mr. Gao Peng.

But his command of English was excellent. In 1930 at the age of 23 he had been the youngest person ever to graduate with a doctorate from the University of Michigan. Professor Cheng was esteemed around the world for his remarkable knowledge of China's 1,260 species of birds, for his contribution to the growth of the science of ornithology in China, for his kindness and help to his colleagues, and for his genuine warmth and humor. In recent years, after Professor Cheng had cardiac complications, I would ask about his health, and he would often respond with a twinkle, "I am still here!"

During my first visit to China my salient concern was the wintering grounds of the eastern population of Siberian Cranes. Siberian Cranes require wide expanses of shallow wetland. We at ICF were concerned

140 research reports. But for those of us who knew and loved this great man, there is an enormous sense of personal loss. To his charming wife, Lydia, his four children and their spouses, his 7 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren, we extend our sincere condolences.

Although this charming gentleman in no longer with us, his name is immortal through a monumental opus of scientific literature...

At the recent International Ornithological Congress (IOC) convened in Durban, South Africa, a decision was made to hold the next IOC in Beijing in 2002. Dr. Cheng would be pleased that the world's leading ornithologists will pay tribute to his beloved China, its remarkable avi-

fauna, and the development of a science founded and nurtured in China by one of this century's leading figures in the study of birds.

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