

THE ICF BUGLE

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INTERNATIONAL CRANE FOUNDATION

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___ICF IN CHINA_

A Season in Zha Long

by George Archibald, Director

Imagine an expanse of gigantic reeds, stretching to the horizon, swaying in the wind—a green carpet broken only by meandering streams and small lakes. Add flecks of color to this Oriental tapestry: purple herons, whitewinged black terns, pied harriers, yellow wagtails. Now, shut your eyes and listen to a symphony. Hovering skylarks repeat a chorus. A descant rises from melodious black-browed reed warblers, hidden in the vegetation with the gigantic bitterns, who boom out the bass. Suddenly a distant fanfare dominates as majestic Red-crowned Cranes proclaim their territory.

These are the sights and sounds that this year drew three score of foreigners to the Zha Long Nature Reserve in China's remote northeast.

From late May through mid September ICF collaborated with a Massachusetts-based non-profit organization called EARTHWATCH on an unusual and successful venture. Throughout these five months American volunteers, recruited by EARTHWATCH, worked with Chinese and ICF ornithologists on a ground-breaking study to survey the avifauna of Zha Long's 560,000 acres. In addition, the volunteers contributed funds to purchase technical equipment which will furnish China's first field research center for ornithology—now under construction at Zha Long.

Established as a protected area in 1979 by China's. Ministry of Forestry, Zha Long Nature Reserve is a great oval-shaped marsh formed where the Wuyun River fans out over a wide basin just east of the city of Qiqihar. An administrative headquarters has now been constructed on a low hill close to the fishing village of Zha Long. Captive cranes, ibis, storks, spoonbills, and



ICF/EARTHWATCH volunteers survey birds along a transect at Zha Long Marsh.

photo by George Archibald

egrets are exhibited nearby in cages which are adjacent to four long rectangular buildings. These buildings provide habitat for staff and guests in summer and staff and captive birds in winter.

The EARTHWATCH volunteers each joined one of nine research teams. Each of these teams, in turn, made a two week excursion to Zha Long during our May-September study period. I led the first two and the final teams; the others were headed by a series of fine professional ornithologists from the U.S. Each group flew out of San Francisco, then walked the Great Wall near Beijing before recovering from jet lag during a 24-hour train ride to Qiqihar. On the first day at Zha Long the teams met their Chinese colleagues, began to learn the common bird species, and were treated to awe-inspiring flights by the captive cranes, who are periodically released and baited back into their enclosures.

From then on, for five days, it was dawn to dusk bird surveys along a 12-kilometer transect line into the marsh, supplemented by birding at neighboring fish ponds. In the evenings we shared lectures and seminars with the Chinese. A lavish banquet, topped off with "Crane" beer, preceded the departure of each team,

The Reserve currently has a full-time research staff of six professional biologists, five of whom were educated at China's foremost center for wildlife studies, the Northeast Forestry Institute in nearby Harbin. A soldierturned-naturalist, Mr. Song Sheng-li, rounded out the research staff at headquarters. Each of the ICF/EARTH-WATCH teams were joined in the field by these enthusiastic and skilled ornithologists. In addition, Professor Fie Den-jin from nearby Oiqibar, and Dr. Hang Fu-lan. Mr. Li Jin-lu, and Mr. Feng Ke-min from Harbin, the provincial capital, joined the historic program. The surveys spanned the entire bird breeding season in the marsh, which has a climate similar to that of southern Manitoba, Cartada.

BIRDS OF ZHA LONG

Although we found herons, reed warblers, buntings and harriers in good numbers throughout the season, waterfowl were scarce. It wasn't until late August that large flocks of migrating falcated teal, garganey teal, and spot-billed ducks congregated in a shallow lake near Zha Long village. Perhaps disturbance from fishermen accounted for the scarcity of nesting ducks and grebes along our transect; we had no way of gauging their numbers in more remote areas of the wetland. Geese and swans were also reputed to breed on Zha Long marsh, but it was not until after the nesting period that we spotted several swan geese (the wild species from which the domesticated, hooped-necked Chinese goose was developed). We never did see a swan. It will be interesting to monitor the populations of waterfowl at Zha Long in the future, to determine if their numbers respond to greater protection.

Our transect line ended with a one-half kilometer wade, in hip boots, through part of the nesting territory of a Red-crowned Crane pair. Before the reeds were too



Captive Red-crowned Cranes at Zha Long are released to fly for visitors.

. photo by George Archibald

tail in June, we could spot this pair and two neighboring Red-crowned pairs out on the carpet of green. They would become alert when we approached, then walk slowly away with their heads lowered—likely an indication that they were leading downy chicks. By July, when the reeds had grown to more than six feet in height, it was impossible to see the cranes unless they were flying. The vegetation screened the fast-growing chicks, which didn't fledge until mid to late August.

Several non-breeding White-naped Cranes were frequently spotted in fields near headquarters early each morning and in the evening. As far as we could ascertain, however, White-naped Cranes were not breeding near the headquarters—although pairs certainly did nest in other areas of the marsh.

Team 3 and Team 6 each saw a group of six Hooded Cranes, while teams 1 and 9 saw small flocks of Common Cranes. Chinese scientists have reported as many as 165 Siberian Cranes staying at Zha Long for five to six weeks in April and early May during migration. Also in May, large flocks of Demoiselle Cranes frequent the agricultural fields bordering the marsh before moving on to nesting areas in the semidesert landscape further west.

PEOPLE OF THE MARSH

For hundreds of years villagers have farmed and fished along the borders of the marsh; the local economy depends on resources from the refuge. The villagers' homes are made from the clay soils that characterize the uplands. Fuel and fencing is provided by bricks of peat excavated from the marsh. From thaw in early April to freeze-up in late October, the lakes are a bountiful source of fish for both birds and man. In winter, villagers walk out on the ice and hand-cut the enormous reeds from the entire acreage. The reeds are then sold to make paper pulp. Some, though, are used to build thatched continued on page 2

CRANES AT ICF

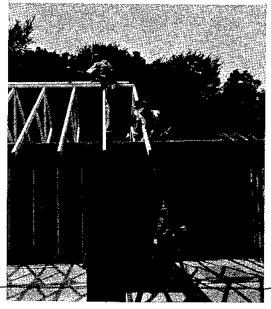
Off of the Old, Onto the New

by Lisa Hartman, Aviculturist

A cluster of red and white barns with a white corral and white swinging gate is not an unusual sight in the landscape of Sauk County, Wisconsin. But for the past ten years, unusual sounds have erupted from one such Sauk County domain: a picturesque horse farm on the outskirts of Baraboo owned by Norm and Claire Sauey. We all know the site as the birthplace of the International Crane Foundation—"that Crane Farm on the hill" to locals—and recognize the sounds as vocalizations from the world's largest and most complete collection of cranes.

Over the past ten years, 317 cranes have spent all or part of their lives at the Sauey farm. They've laid a total of 627 eggs. Approximately 50;000 people have visited them. The old homestead has been good to us and the birds, but we're bidding it good-bye. The increasing numbers of cranes, visitors, and staff, along with the Sauey's future plans for the farm, have made ICF's move a necessity.

Exhibit cranes, visitors, and the administration, education, and site planning staffs are now at the new site. On occasion, though, members who visit the new head-quarters will notice that something is missing. Where are the aviculturists? And what about the rest of the birds? Where is Wolf, that ancient 75 year-old Siberian Crane ICF boasts about? And Zhurka, the prolific egg-laying Red-crowned Crane? Or cute Little Aeroflot, who hatched at 30,000 feet over Cleveland, Ohio, in a suitcase?



The Sauey Hatchery Complex at ICF's new site, now under construction.

photo by Becky Marty

This trio, the other members of ICF's breeding flock, and the aviculture staff are still at the Sauey property—the "old site." The aviculture team will be moving out in February when the Sauey Hatchery Complex, now under construction, is completed. But the breeding birds (approximately 80 cranes) won't move off the Sauey property until pens are constructed in the new site's proposed "Crane City." That development, which will complete ICF's move off of the old site and onto

the new, may be several years away.

In the meantime, the aviculture staff is beginning to dismantle the old site in preparation for turning the farm back to the Saueys. We've turned the chick exercise yard back into a horse corral by removing a series of fences and small wooden shelters. We've taken our temporary partitions out of the chick house and cleaned it from top to bottom; it now looks exactly the way it did before ICF got started. We've also dismantled the flight netting, fencing, shrubbery, and lighting systems that converted the Saueys' horse stalls into crane pens. The breeding unit where the majority of our birds are housed, however, will stay intact until the breeding flock can move to the new site.

And what will become of the farm when ICF vacates? To find out, I located Norm Sauey in one of his elements—a woodworking shop on the farm he has donated to ICF for ten years. The back of his shop looks out onto the pen of Abercrombie, an East African Crowned Crane. While Norm is busy drilling, planing, and sanding wood, Abercrombie perches on a stump and peers through the window at him. Occasionally Abercrombie will tap at the windows—communicating what, we don't know.

Norm told me that he plans to use his barns, stalls, corral, and fields as a summer home for horses when the cranes move out. Florida is the permanent home of Norm's Nodoroma Horse Farm, where he raises Arabians for show and competition. The Nodoroma operation was, in fact, just being moved to Florida from the Baraboo farm when ICF moved in. At least in summers, then, the Saueys will be returning the farm to its original use.

So this fall ICF is "de-craning" the old site; taking another step in a long and involved move. But though ICF's external appearance may be gradually changing from red and white barns to geometric "prairie school" buildings, the internal spirit and workings of the Foundation are just the same.

A Season in Zha Long

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roofs that are reputed to last more than forty years if properly constructed. Before the reserve was established egg collecting was also practiced on a large scale each spring. Apparently this has been discontinued, and there has been a subsequent explosion in the numbers of the colonially-nesting purple heron.

We were amazed by the number of people that visited the Reserve's headquarters. Daily, from mid-morning through the late afternoon, an almost non-stop stream of buses arrived and departed. Apparently each worker's unit in China has a small bus; a trip to Zha Long is a brief holiday with the cranes. The bird keepers usually released several of the captive cranes, who then thrilled the visitors by flying low overhead. The potential for public education is enormous.

CHINA'S FIRST BIRD RESEARCH STATION

In 1982 an excellent road was completed linking Qiqihar to Zha Long. This year, through funds provided by the Ministry of Forestry, a large, two-story building is being constructed as a headquarters for China's first research station for field ornithology. Working closely with our Chinese colleagues, we developed a list of equipment needed to outfit the new research center. Some of the items were to be purchased by funds generated from the contribution made by each EARTHWATCH volunteer, and some were donated by interested manufacturers.

The last two teams carried most of the promised technical equipment to Zha Long. Thanks to the volunteers, sympathetic corporations, and the ICF/EARTHWATCH effort, Zha Long's field researchers now have binocuars, spotting scopes with tripods, a binocular dissecting scope, stacks of field guides, rocket nets, a complete video taping system, a band-making machine, banding



The ornithological field station at Zha Long, now under construction.

photo by George Archibald

materials, and mist nets. The captive breeding program has two new electric incubators, a compound microscope, and an egg-candling machine. For the education program we provided duplicates of slides and prints taken by team members, a taxidermy set, and technical books to start a natural history library. EARTHWATCH's Ann Robinson deserves a gold star for assembling most of the equipment, and on behalf of my Chinese colleagues, I would also like to personally thank the contributing individuals and businesses.

Next year ICF/EARTHWATCH teams hope to visit Zha Long during the migration season: the months of April, May, September, and October. With those surveys completed, we will have studied the avifauna from thaw to freeze-up. Since next year will likely be the last time ICF and EARTHWATCH collaborate to bring expeditions to Zha Long, be sure to contact us in the near future to learn how you can experience this remarkable wildlife area and the equally remarkable Chinese hospitality.

But the end of the Zha Long avifauna project will only be the start of ICF's proposed work in China. Step by step, since 1979, we have been charting an ambitious conservation course in China. The Zha Long project has been a key step, for it has taken us through the bamboo curtain, and on to the great wetlands beyond.

CONTRIBUTORS OF EQUIPMENT TO ZHA LONG NATURE RESERVE:

Agri-graphics, Ltd. American Ornithologist's Union Jere Berkenfeld Bleitz Wildlife Foundation Bushnell, Inc. Chieko Akiyama John Henry Dick EARTHWATCH Forestry Supplies, Inc. International Crane Foundation 3M Corporation Marsh Farms, Inc. Michael Mattern Gallery Scott Machine Development Corporation Smithsonian Institution Sony, Inc. Stanton & Lee Publishers Swift Manufacturing, Inc. Wild Bird Society of Japan Wildlife Materials, Inc.

___CRANES AROUND THE WORLD ____

Pakistan Takes Strides to Save Cranes

by Steven Landfried, Consultant, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

One of the world's rarest birds migrates through Pakistan. As recently as last year, however, few people knew about it. Least aware were the Pathan tribesmen who hunt cranes near the Afghan border. Their live-catching of migrating cranes, primarily Demoiselle and Common Cranes, in Baluchistan and the North West Frontier Province (NWFP) may have contributed to the decline of the Siberian Crane. Only 36 of this magnificent species now migrate through Pakistan on their way to and from wintering grounds in India.

The potential threat of crane hunting to the Indianwintering population of Siberian Cranes first became apparent during a trip to Pakistan I made in December, 1981 (see *The Bugle*, Spring, 1982). Intrigued by information garnered during that journey, the International Affairs Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service decided to support further investigations. What impact has crane hunting had on populations over the years? A significant one. Tom Roberts and I, in a paper presented to the International Crane Workshop in Bharatpur, India last February, said "there is a real likelihood of losing the Demoiselle and Common Cranes." Reports from the hunters confirm this pessimism.

More than half (56%) of the hunters believe "considerable decreases" have occurred in cranes migrating through the area; a similar number reported "considerable decreases" in their own yearly crane catches. One old man, perhaps the oldest crane hunter in Pakistan, noted: "the number of 'koonj' migrating through this area was tremendously higher years ago. Compared with the present day when we may catch two or three cranes, we once caught 45 birds in a night!"

Can crane hunting in Pakistan be reduced in time to





Pathan tribesmen lift caged cranes (left) to stimulate calls that will attract wild birds eyed by hunters (right). The hunters swing "solas" before flinging them skyward to ensnare and capture wild cranes. photos by Steven Landfried

I subsequently returned to Pakistan in October of 1982 to observe the end of the fail hunting season with naturalist Tom Roberts. Alarmed by the large number of semi-domesticated cranes we saw in the fields around Bannu (home of most of the crane hunters), we urged the World Wildlife Fund-Pakistan to provide financial support for the Wildlife Department of the NWFP to conduct a census of the captive cranes and administer a questionnaire to crane hunters. Within a few months Mumtaz Malik, Chief Conservator of Wildlife for the NWFP, had submitted a proposal accepted by WWF-P.

During the last week of February Malik and I developed a 49-item English language questionnaire. Translated and printed in Urdu, the questionnaire was later verbally administered in three local dialects of Pashtu by twenty carefully selected and trained Wildlife Department staff members. The effort was timed to coincide with the departure of the hunters for the spring 1983 hunt in the Kurrum Valley, and along two key roads to Baluchistan and the Punjab.

Questionnaires were administered to 921 hunters (about half the total thought to practice the sport) and the data were carefully tabulated under Malik's supervision. In many respects the results were surprising, and, in some cases, alarming. For example, hunters reported having a total of 5,071 cranes in captivity—57% Common Cranes and 43% Demoiselle Cranes. Since the hunters are required to pay a crane possession fee, it is likely that they would underestimate their birds to wildlife officials. Few of the captured cranes had ever bred in captivity.

spare the Siberian, or even the Demoiselle and Common Cranes?

Opinions differ. Tom Roberts, who has lived in Pakistan for over thirty years, comments: "From childhood they (the tribesmen) are taught the manly virtues. They are taught marksmanship and that it is clever to knock a sparrow out of the tree with a catapult (slingshot). In the Frontier, the general attitude is: 'If it moves, kill it. If it's stationary, chop it down.' And I don't think you are going to change that very easily."

For these reasons virtually everyone feels education—from the top of the society to the bottom—is absolutely crucial. A five-pronged strategy has now been developed to begin reducing crane hunting pressures in Pakistan. According to Mumtaz Malik: "Siberian Cranes will be shifted to Schedule Three—thereby banning their hunting or capture. Shooting of cranes will be banned altogether and we will try to restrict spring hunting of cranes. We will be levying some heavy hunting fees for Common and Demoiselle Cranes in order to reduce the number of hunters, particularly those under 18."

In August I returned to Pakistan briefly. The Governor of the NWFP, General Fazle Haq, had gone officially on record supporting legal changes designed to protect Siberian Cranes and provide restrictions on the hunting of Common and Demoiselle Cranes.

In addition, Mr. Malik plans to continue financial incentives for hunters to give the Wildlife Department fullwinged cranes, which can later be banded with orange "ICF" leg bands (provided by Harold Bessac of Dalton, continued on page 4

WHOOPER UPDATE

by Scott Freeman, Education Coordinator

The last time you saw an update on Whooping Cranes in the Bugle there wasn't much good news to report. The world population had dropped from an estimated 120 birds in 1980 to only 109 in 1981. A fire had swept through Wood Buffalo National Park in Cauada, where the largest wild flock breeds, and water levels in the marshes were extremely low. The experimental population in Idaho, where Whooping Crane eggs are being substituted into Sandhill Crane nests, continued to be plagued by coyote predation and the loss of subadult birds to collisions with barbed wire fences and power lines. The 40 year trend of slow and steady growth in Whooping Crane numbers seemed stalled.

This season, the population's growth has been neither slow and steady nor stalled—it's been almost geometric. 1983 was, without a doubt, the most productive year for Whooping Cranes in recent history.

Here are the details:

WOOD BUFFALO NATIONAL PARK, CANADA

Twenty-four nesting pairs of Whooping Cranes, the highest total ever discovered at Wood Buffalo, were reported this year by Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) biologist Dr. Ernie Kuyt. The most breeding pairs sighted in a previous year was 19. Ernie also reported that water conditions on the breeding marshes were the best he's seen in five years.

This fall Ernie and his CWS colleagues located and banded 12 chicks, although four have subsequently been found killed by wolves. Since the February, 1983 census of adults and juveniles on their Texas wintering grounds was 72, there may now be as many as 80 cranes in the traditional flock.

GRAYS LAKE, IDAHO

Whooping Crane eggs taken from wild nests in Wood Buffalo and captive pairs at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center have been substituted into the nests of Sandhill Cranes at Grays Lake National Wildlife Refuge each spring since 1976. Last winter Dr. Rod Drewein, who supervises the cross-fostering experiment, estimated that 12 Sandhill-reared Whoopers were alive and well.

This spring the CWS sent 16 eggs down, and Patuxent shipped 12 eggs over, to Idaho to bolster the struggling experimental flock. Twenty-six of the 28 Whooper eggs hatched under their Sandhill foster parents, and 19 chicks have fledged—by far the best results of any season to date.

PATUXENT WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTER, MARYLAND

Patuxent has been the headquarters for the Whooping Crane captive breeding program since its inception in 1967. This spring Patuxent housed a total of 25 birds. Five breeding pairs produced 34 eggs—31 of which were fertile. After sending a dozen eggs to Idaho, Patuxent hatched 14 chicks and reared 10 to fledging (two of which were from eggs sent down from Canada). Their captive flock now stands at 35. Adding the pair at San Antonio Zoo and ICF's own Gee Whiz, the census in captivity is 38. Put all the Whooper numbers together, and the current world population may be as high as 149.

NOTE: special thanks to Drs. Scott Derrickson and Jim Carpenter of Patuxent for supplying the census data.

ON THE HOME FRONT

SPOTLIGHT:

The Prince of Prints

Although most of ICF's members have never met him, Mr. Danny Weaver sends each and every one a beautiful gift each winter. Every year Danny and his staff at Agri-graphics, Ltd. in Cary, Illinois make several thousand 8x10 prints of a crane photo and donate them to ICF, as a special premium for members. The first "Crane of the Year" photo, a nesting Sandhill Crane, came out in 1976. Many ICF members have been collecting ever since.

Agri-graphics is a company that specializes in livestock photography-especially dairy cattle. Danny Weaver is the founder and President, but in addition to managing the booming, and now international, business, he still does his share of actual picture-taking. He's been photographing cranes, the most exotic subject Agri-graphics has taken on, ever since he met George Archibald in the mid-1970's,

In recent years Danny has been doing even more for the cranes than printing their annual portraits. Perhaps his most important donations have been large, high quality color prints for crane exhibits ICF has shown all over the world. One of Danny's crane photo exhibits, for example, was up at the International Ornithological Congress in Moscow last year, and was subsequently given to the USSR's Ministry of Agriculture for permanent display. Another was featured at the International Crane Workshop in India last February, and now hangs in the Visitor Center at India's Keoladeo National Park. He's also donated sets of slide duplicates for our orientation slide show at the new site, and is storing our most valuable slides in specially controlled conditions at Agri-Graphics.

As if all of this lab work wasn't enough of a contribution, Danny has now taken to the field. He visited the Zha Long Nature Reserve in China this fall as a member of the final ICF/EARTHWATCH research team. There he set up an impromptu field studio for photographing songbirds that were being mist-netted, In typical fashion, he has donated prints of his Chinese bird photos to Zha Long's education program.

At long last Danny Weaver is in front of ICF's camera, instead of behind it. From ICF's staff, members, and cranes, here's a well-deserved round of applause and

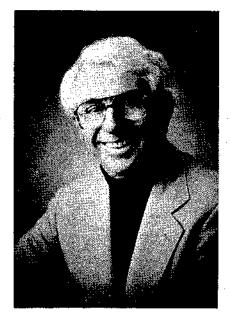


photo courtesy of Agri-graphics, Ltd.

Pakistan

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Wisconsin) and released back into the wild.

Also, the Pakistan radio network was preparing to broadcast a fifteen-minute Urdu language program about crane conservation efforts on a nationwide, 16station hook-up. Published reports in conservation magazines and leading newspapers, educational slide presentations to public and governmental audiences, and the release of a Siberian Crane stamp-featuring the impressive artwork of Sir Peter Scott-have further spread the word.

With the support of top governmental officials and organizations like the World Wildlife Fund-Pakistan, dedicated field practitioners like Mr. Malik may see the realization of their dreams in a more environmentally aware Pakistan-and of cranes in their grandchildren's autumn sky.

Publications

The following are recent additions to ICF's library you may find of interest.

Bird Conservation I, edited by Stanley A. Temple. First edition in series on efforts to save endangered birds. Published 1983 by University of Wisconsin Press for International Council for Bird Preservation,

Cranes of the World by Paul A. Johnsgard. Comprehensive and current survey on natural history of cranes. 25 drawings, 47 photos. Published 1983 by Indiana University Press.

Japanese Crane: Bird of Happiness, written by Dorothy Britton with photos by Tsuneo Hayashida, Beautiful photo album on the "Tancho" of Japan. Published 1982 by Kodansha International, Tokyo,

ARTICLES

Kitagawa, T. 1982. Bionomics and sociology of Tancho, Grus japonensis, III. J. Yamashina Inst. Ornith. 14(2/3): 344-362.

Lovvorn, J.R. and C.M. Kirkpatrick, 1982. Field use by staging Eastern Greater Sandhill Cranes. J. Wildl. Manage. 46(1): 99-108.

Shibaev, Y.V. and N.M. Litvinenko, 1982. Distribution and number of Grus japonensis (P.L.S. Mull.) and Grus vipio Pall, in the USSR, J. Yamashina Inst. Ornith, 14(2/3): 246-253.

ICF has received a gift in memory of Grace Vogel which will be used to help support our aviculture program. Mrs. Vogel was the grandmother of Ron Meyer, director of the PBS film on ICF called "Flight From Extinction."

The Wish List

Autumn is a great time to go through your attic, checkbook, closets, and garage and throw out all the old stuff that you haven't been using. But instead of just throwing things out, you may want to throw them out to the Crane Foundation. We wish we had:

- old binoculars. . .to loan to visitors learning how to birdwatch.
- · old magnifying glasses or hand lenses. . .to loan to visitors learning how to identify flowers,
- portable cassette tape recorders. . .to loan to visitors taking one of our taped nature trail tours,
- A 35mm camera body...for the education program,
- full suspension file cabinets. . .for the library and office in the new hatchery,
- · a washer and dryer. . , for the new hatchery (for aviculturists to use in washing work clothes).

Whether new, used, begged, borrowed, or bought, we'd appreciate donations of any of these items.

CONTRIBUTIONS-

GRANTS

Badger Meter Foundation **Bolz Family Foundation** Frank G. Brotz Family Foundation John and Barbara Canfield Dellwood Foundation H. J. Hagge Foundation Ben Hallam Kopmeler Family Fund Marling Lumber Ralph Moser NMC Projects Werner Nartel Charles and Mary Nelson Edward John Noble Foundation Pepsi Cola Bottling Co. of Madison Norman Sauev

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The Bottom Line

Bob Hallam, Development Coordinator

Membership growth continues at ICF. To date, our membership has grown from 2,235 last December 31st to 2.639 as of the end of August. This represents an increase of 18%. Of the 404 new members, 70%, or 289, can be attributed directly to our membership drive. The remaining 115 members have resulted from referrais, the annual crane count, and from the increase in tour attendance. Our goal is to end the year with a membership of 2,750.

Tour attendance at ICF during the months of July and August has increased 65% over the previous year. Even more surprising is that sales in our gift shop have exceeded tour income. Next year we plan to expand the gift shop selection, continuing to offer quality items at reasonable prices. With a carefully planned and executed advertising and promotional budget, we plan to host 20,000 visitors in 1984.

In the months ahead, you will notice that we have redesigned the membership envelope. In addition to the basic information about ICF membership categories, we have added a map of our new location, a tour schedule, and an order blank for ICF membership.

Increases in membership and tour and sales income, combined with continued support from current members, are the key to ICF's future.