# Get Involved - Take a Trip with ICF!



East Africa: January 11 – 26, 2006

The Lake Victoria region of East Africa is world renowned for its magnificent wildlife and majestic scenery, including diverse wetlands that support the beloved Grey Crowned Crane. This January, ICF's Director of Africa Programs, Dr. Rich Beilfuss, will lead a study-visit to two exciting community programs that are making a difference for wildlife conservation in East Africa. These

programs have engaged thousands of school children and citizen groups in activities that raise awareness about the value of wetlands, the plight of Grey Crowned Cranes, and the ways that people can help protect the wildlife in their communities. We will also visit Mountain Gorillas in the spectacular "Switzerland of Africa," view the abundant wildlife of the Great Rift Valley and explore the caves and waterfalls of towering Mount Elgon. Join us for this unforgettable exploration of conservation and beauty in East Africa.

Travel arrangements by Unlimited Fun Safaris, P.O. Box 6313, Bloomington, IL 60108. Contact Joyce Basil, 800-323-8020; safari@unlimitedfun.net



# Southeast Asia: February 15 - March 1, 2006

The wetlands of the Mekong Delta and the Great Lake provide homes for myriad waterbirds in a unique landscape that has also supported people for a millennium. Jeb Barzen, ICF's director of Field Ecology, and you will explore the wetlands where people, Sarus Cranes and storks merge in floodplains of the

Mekong watershed. From Ankorian temples off the Great Lake to Khmer villages in Vietnam's Mekong Delta, you will discover how the complicated human history mingles with the powerful symbol that the Sarus invokes to create effective conservation programs. Please join us and re-discover Southeast Asia!

Travel arrangements by Travel Beyond, 214 S. Minnetonka Ave., Wayzata, MN 55391, 800-876-3131, www.travelbeyond.com. For Southeast Asia, contact Bob Gaston, bob@travelbeyond.com. ICF is also leading a trip to Southern Africa in July 2006. For information, contact Jenny Strand, jenny@travelbeyond.com.

If you are interested in participating in these trips, please visit the ICF website: www.savingcranes.org and click on "What's New." Each trip posting contains a complete travel itinerary, costs, terms, and conditions.



# **International Crane Foundation**

E11376 Shady Lane Rd. P.O. Box 447 Baraboo, WI 53913-0447 www.savingcranes.org

Nonprofit Org U.S. Postage **PAID** LaCrosse, WI

Permit No. 25

A Printed on 100% Recycled Paper

REGISTRATION On Page 7



# World Center for the Study and Preservation of Cranes

Since its founding in 1973, the International Crane Foundation (ICF) has been a global leader in the conservation of cranes and their ecosystems. In this, our 32<sup>nd</sup> year, the ICF Board of Directors and staff are renewing the commitment to our organizational

mission.

A year long intensive strategic planning process has led us to refine the scope of our work and bring new focus to the principles we embrace. In September, at our annual members meeting and open house, ICF President James Harris and other ICF staff will unveil our new vision, our strategic values, and the goals, achievements, and challenges that guide us as an institution. This edition of the Bugle provides you with a preview. Exciting changes are underway, at home

on the ICF campus

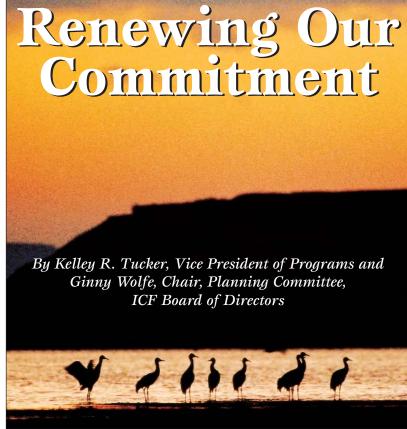


Photo by Crane Wu.

ing innovative projects in over 40 countries worldwide.

and abroad where cranes are threatened

More than ever before, our commitment to crane conservation requires a thoughtful balancing of our long term investments of staff and resources in the places where cranes live, with the traditional strengths in crane husbandry, ecosystem restoration, information

> dissemination, and education practiced at our Baraboo headquarters.

More than ever before, the International Crane Foundation is a global community of scientists, educators, landowners, decisionmakers, and people like you, who care about cranes. Together, we seek effective solutions to the greatest challenges facing cranes and the places where they live. We continue to learn as we implement these solutions, as we train and involve others, and as we share the lessons among our networks of colleagues and supporters on five continents.

Renew your commitment to cranes...please join us in September at

our Annual Meeting, visit our campus, participate in Today, ICF staff is on the ground or directly support- an excursion into the field. Your commitment makes our vision a reality.

# The Big Picture of Crane Conservation

Curt Meine, ICF Research Associate

Over the last three decades, ICF has learned one sure lesson: crane conservation is a diverse and dynamic task. Whether monitoring ecological conditions in Zambia or Zimbabwe, supporting community development at Cao Hai in China, or assisting in the recovery of Whooping Cranes in North America, ICF must maximize the cranes' chances for survival in a constantly changing world.

This past year, as part of an intensive strategic planning process, we have stepped back to look at the "big picture." The result, summarized here, is the Global Framework for Crane Conservation, a document that reviews the status of cranes, defines a broad approach to their conservation, and allows ICF to determine its future priorities.

# Changes Over the Last Decade

Since publication of *The Cranes: Status* Survey and Conservation Action Plan (1996) – a global assessment of crane conservation led by ICF – we have learned more about crane populations and vital crane habitats. Some populations, including those of the Blue and Whooping Cranes, have stabilized or increased. Others have declined. The central population of Siberian Cranes has apparently gone extinct. Threats to cranes and pressures upon the wetlands and grasslands they inhabit have increased almost everywhere.

Meanwhile, crane conservationists have expanded our "toolbox" of responses. We have initiated reintroduction projects. We have established many new protected areas, and by partnering with communities and governments significantly improved management of existing reserves.

## **Levels of Conservation Action**

Another change, this one within the wider conservation community, is a growing appreciation that biodiversity is organized at different levels. In crane conservation we recognize five main levels: populations/species, ecosystems, watersheds, flyways/regions, and the earth itself. Each level is "nested" within the level above it. Change can and does occur at all levels. Effective crane conservation usually operates at several levels. Although it is often easier to undertake actions on behalf of populations or species, success ultimately depends upon forces acting at higher levels.

Most crane conservation activities occur at the four lower levels. At the **species level**, cranes are vulnerable to diverse threats (e.g., power line collisions, poisoning, infectious disease), the degree of threat varying by species and location. Ongoing scientific monitoring of each species is thus fundamental to effective conservation.

The most significant long-term threat to cranes occurs at the **ecosystem level**: the loss and degradation of wetland and grassland ecosystems that serve as crane habitats. Cranes have strong fidelity to specific breeding, feeding, staging, and wintering sites and are highly vulnerable to damage to these areas.

The loss or degradation of specific crane sites often reflects environmental change at the watershed level. Watersheds range in scale from local lands surrounding specific sites to vast international water basins embracing varied cultures, governments, and interests. Consequently, actions at this level are especially complex. Effective conservation requires the adoption of ecologically informed approaches to river basin and water management, land use, and economic development.

Some crane conservation needs are best understood at the flyway or regional level. For migratory cranes, coordination along flyways is essential. The fate of many populations hinges on "weak links" in the annual migration cycle. Species such as the Sarus and Wattled Cranes do not undertake longrange migrations, but the seasonal movements of their populations require similar coordination across entire regions.

Crane conservationists must be aware of global trends that affect cranes and their habitats. Climate change, population growth, armed conflict, international trade, and other phenomena are changing the world in which cranes and biodiversity in general—exist. These trends are expressed as localized environmental impacts, such as intensified water demand, pollution, habitat loss, and the spread of invasive species.

Cranes face diverse threats at all these levels, mostly due to human activity. Strict legal measures—for example, to prevent the capture for trade of rare species or to restrict resource use within sensitive protected areas—are often needed to sustain cranes and other wildlife. Enforcement of such measures, however, is difficult if the public is not informed, sympathetic, and involved and if basic human needs are not ful-

We know from experience that cranes have a special capacity to lead people from one level of concern to another: the initial impulse to care about cranes often leads to commitment and action for broad issues at ecosystem or regional levels. Cranes connect people in a common cause, as they face similar challenges in diverse places.

# **Looking Toward the Future**

In years to come, the "big picture" of crane conservation will surely reflect both positive and negative changes. On the plus side, the more we learn about cranes, the more effective conservation efforts promise to be. Communication technologies will allow conservationists to share information and ideas more

efficiently. Although many important "crane places" still need protection, cranes stand to benefit greatly from improved management of existing

On the negative side, we can expect degradation of natural ecosystems and ecological processes to continue. The survival of cranes (and other wildlife) will reflect our ability to identify, protect, and effectively manage key crane habitats; adopt ecologically informed approaches to water, river basin, and land management; and develop effective communitybased approaches to resource manage-

We have learned much about conflict resolution at the local level, and this experience may help us to address broader conflicts that threaten so much of what we value in the natural world. In this, cranes have something special to contribute.

Many peoples around the world have believed that cranes bring good fortune. Now and into the future, caring for cranes can benefit countless living creatures in addition to the cranes themselves. Perhaps, in the end, we ourselves will benefit the most.

# **Implications for ICF**

No single organization can undertake all of the activities needed for crane conservation. Any organization, including ICF, will need to be highly selective in identifying priorities. To do so, we need the "big picture" perspective. If we confine our vision to just one or two levels of concern, we may miss the most critical factors affecting crane conservation.

ICF encourages action at all levels, and the work of many different players to achieve our mission. Our programs must reflect this commitment. As we focus our energies on diverse, long-term projects

(for example, our Zambezi Delta initiative is a large-scale river basin project that addresses very different needs than reintroduction of the Whooping Crane into eastern North America), we seek to provide models for others, demonstrating action at the different levels of concern.

This approach has important implications for ICF. To provide leadership and work at different levels, ICF staff must have diverse backgrounds and experiences. Our approach especially values human relationships and effective use of science in the field.

# **Back to Work**

Every organization needs a time-out now and then to take a hard look at itself and the world in which it operates. ICF has always benefited from its clearly defined mission, focused on the survival of the world's fifteen species of cranes. To carry out that mission, however, requires that we adapt to changing needs, apply new knowledge, understand human communities, and work effec-



Conserving cranes, for the long-term, requires action at multiple, inter-dependent levels: populations or species, ecosystems, watersheds, flyways, and ultimately the globe. Each level is nested within, and depends upon, conditions at the higher levels. Illustration by Jay Jocham.

# Fulfilling Our Global Vision

By Jim Harris, President

When I think of the International Crane Foundation's (ICF's) future, I think of the diversity of people who will become engaged in effective caring and action for the cranes. Just as cranes live all around the world, so our members and colleagues come from five continents and dozens of countries.

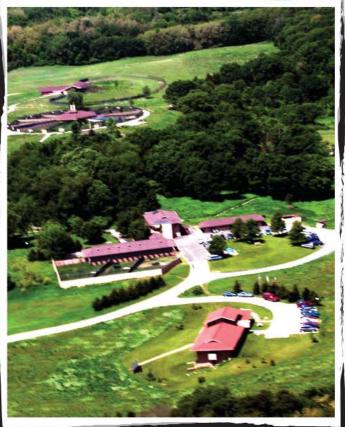
The past year's planning dialogue has involved staff and directors, and relied upon views and visioning from our supporters and from colleagues looking at ICF from the outside. One of the benefits of the process has been the distillation and expression of what we are about, what we hope to accomplish, and how we will do the work. These characteristics help define a unique institution with a special approach to connecting individuals with global conservation.

For you, our members, your participation with ICF's mission links you with some very special people whose lives have been utterly different from your own. In Russia, our youth programs have helped children learn citizenship and action skills that have made them leaders in their communities. In Afghanistan, crane conservationists work to reduce shooting of wildlife and restore wetlands damaged by war. In Zimbabwe, very poor farmers with new access to the land are learning how to safeguard their Wattled Cranes.

The Long Range Plan will help the diverse people participating in crane work to understand and look at these efforts with shared assumptions. We invite you to visit our website www.savingcranes.org to view the entire plan. In this limited space in The ICF Bugle, I wish to share brief excerpts from the plan.

"When one tugs at a single thing in nature, one finds it attached to the rest of the world."

-Vohn Mair









#### STRATEGIC VALUES **VISION**

The International Crane Foundation (ICF) commits to a future where all of the 15 crane species are secure - a future where people cooperate to protect and restore wild populations and their ecosystems. These efforts sustain the places where cranes live, to the benefit of countless other species.

ICF's achievements arise from our receptivity to the perspectives and experiences of others and from our ability creatively to link crane conservation with broad ecological and social issues. Our programs demonstrate the solutions that become possible when diverse people work together.

To fulfill this challenging vision, ICF provides leadership, scientific expertise, and inspiration for all who care about cranes. We act as a catalyst, nurturing effective programs and lasting relationships that make a difference worldwide.

Conserving all 15 species of cranes requires a broad commitment to the people and places essential to cranes. ICF's strength and effectiveness arise from its identity as a small organization located in a rural landscape vet with global reach. Entering our fourth decade of caring for cranes and their conservation, ICF has created a unique institutional culture - defined through our programmatic values described below - that guides our mission and how we interact with others. As ICF continues to grow, we seek to safeguard and enhance these values.

A science-based perspective – While cranes provide the inspiration for people to engage in conservation, at ICF the application of sound science defines the processes for effective conservation action. Our scientific approach allows us to apply our knowledge and experience before issues become polarized, identifying future problems and complex relationships and working to resolve them early.

# Learning through model programs -

ICF maintains a clear and focused program vision dedicating staff expertise and resources in ways that allow long-term scientific commitments to the people and the places where we work. We create effective models that demonstrate solutions to widespread conservation and human problems to help others benefit from our expertise and enable them to broadly apply our experience and knowledge to specific situations.

Bringing people together – ICF believes that the work of many individuals and organizations is necessary to achieve the conservation of cranes and their ecosystems worldwide. In places where we work, we seek broad alliances - among all those who share a concern for cranes - to most effectively pursue common goals. Here and elsewhere, we serve as a catalyst for information, ideas, and approaches that enable colleagues and partners to

undertake additional activities essential for cranes and the places they live.

Nurturing global links – We are creating a global community of information, innovation, caring, and expertise. ICF outreach and on-site programs and resources make our audiences aware of crane conservation issues in their "backyard." Learning about the 15 crane species links these audiences to conservation issues and concerns worldwide. Our international programs build awareness of this interconnectedness, this potential for shared learning and solutions. for people in places where cranes are in greatest need.

Caring about local communities - As ICF has worked to safeguard the protected areas and other landscapes where cranes live, we have learned that conserving wild resources can only succeed if local people are able to play a significant role in managing those resources. We believe that conservation solutions that benefit local people

have a higher chance of achieving longterm success. Where possible, we identify and support leaders in the places where cranes live, developing long-term relationships and offering them professional opportunities.

# **Fulfilling Our Global Vision:**

ICF's 2005 Annual Campaign coincides with the launch of our Long Range Plan. Your vital support will enable ICF to fulfill this ambitious plan, by crafting alliances and designing long-term programs as well as responses to emerging threats. Your help through the 2005 Annual Campaign will make a lasting difference for the cranes as we strengthen and expand diverse programs that reach five continents. Watch for a letter coming by mail, or contact Greg Schultz at gregs@savingcranes.org, ext. 144.

# Among ICF commitments in the coming decade...

We will work intensively to establish a viable population of Whooping Cranes in eastern North America (far right, photo shows a family on display at ICF this summer).

We will demonstrate how to manage recovering populations of cranes through our work with Greater Sandhill Cranes . . . revealing what is possible and necessary for other recovering crane populations around the world.

We will show how community-based wetland initiatives in Africa can restore ecological health and biological diversity, meet community aspirations, and satisfy national development objectives.

We will sustain the great eastern Asia flyway for seven species of cranes . . . safeguard key locations, foster long-term and large-scale thinking among diverse cultures and interests, and nurture international

We will enhance our headquarters, providing a unique campus and a landscape that informs, motivates, and involves people in crane conservation on a global scale.

Photos left to right: Al Perry, Crane Wu (top), submitted by Nickolai Germogenov (bottom) and Tim Christie Photo.

# Contributions List, April - June, 2005

### **GRANTS AND** DONATIONS

George Archibald Flavius and Naomi Barker Nancy A. Baxter Richard and Sue Campbell Robert Dohmen Samuel P. Evans Betsv Getz H. Candace Gorman Terry J. Kohler James and Barbara Matthews Susan Feith Mead Paul A. Myles Gordon and Shirley Rock Joan T. Smith Linda Stagemeyer Alliant Energy Foundation, Inc. ChevronTexaco Disney Wildlife Conservation Fund

The Donnelley Foundation The Evjue Foundation, Inc. Felburn Foundation H.J. Hagge Foundation, Inc. Hawksglen Foundation International Bank for Reconstruction Development Reinhardt H. & Shirley R. Jahn Foundation Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund The Charlotte and Walter Kohler Charitable Trust The Henry Luce Foundation, Inc. Magnolia Charitable Trust The Oscar G. & Elsa S. Mayer Family Foundation Micro Control Company The Minneapolis Foundation Ritz Family Foundation

Nartel Family Foundation National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Inc. OTI Human Resources Reliable Renovations The Saint Paul Foundation

Katherine B. Andersen Fund Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust Vanguard Charitable

**Endowment Program** The Ford and Suzanne Dallmeyer Charitable Fund Windway Capital Corporation

Zoological Society of Milwaukee County

# BENEFACTOR

Douglas and Margaretann Haag Mr. and Mrs. Oscar G. Mayer

#### **PATRON**

Grant Abert and Nancy Ward Allan and Anita Beach Karen and Peter Claevs Edward and Joan Kurdziel Dan Lufkin Mr. and Mrs. David Phelps Peter Stedman Mr. and Mrs. William Van Dyke Anonymous (Wisconsin)

#### **SPONSOR**

Mr. and Mrs. Woodson Duncan Eric and Karen Ende Lemuel Fraser Michael A. Gordon

Lillian Griffith Ruth Kearl Loeta Reed-Cress Larry and Amy Weiss Anonymous (Illinois)

## **SUSTAINING**

Thomas Ashman Ray and Sandra Balfour Bruce and Carol Barry Dr. Henry Bradley Joyce Brink Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Bumstead Marshall Colburn Gary Conover Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dott Patricia Eastwood Linda Flores and Michael O. Reedv Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gibbs Cynthia Gregory Charles Green Gail Hanson and Richard Graehner John and Ruth Huss

Beatrice A. Kabler Cindy and Mark MacKenzie Jan Mittelstaedt and Rodney Stewart

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mowbray Gregory Moyer Donald Mundt Mr. and Mrs. James Nelson Mr. and Mrs. J. Reed O'Malley Andy Palm Rose Sime

Karen Sorenson Laurence and Natalie Stocking Stanley Temple R. Roberta Throne Bill and Ann Vanderbilt Stuart White

Daniel and Barbara Williams Herbert H. Kohl Charities Dan Storey Foundation, Inc.

#### **NEW ASSOCIATES**

Deborah Allen James Bjornerud Virginia Judith Bowman Jennifer Burrows Mona Hannah Albert and Lois Hough David Pike E. Jacqueline Winston James and Diana Wright

#### **BIRD-A-THON**

The following foundations and individuals contributed \$250 or more to the 2005 Bird-a-thon. We thank you for your generous support of this event!

George Archibald Mrs. George Brumis Catherine B. Cleary John and Judy Day Thomas A. Dav Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Dohmen Robert Dohmen Paul Holzman and Barbara Crass Dave Hurd Michael R. Perkins Nancy Levi Ranney Dee Dee and Bing Rikkers Richard and Elyane Steeves Robert Stuart, Jr. Bruce and Irene Warning Sandi and David Whitmore



# Lufthansa

The ICF Bugle is the quarterly newsletter for members of the International Crane Foundation. ICF was founded in 1973 by Ronald Sauey, Ph.D (1948 - 1987) and George Archibald, Ph.D. Bugle comments or guestions? Please write Kate kate@savingcranes.org or P.O. Box 447, Baraboo, WI. 53913

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	\$25
Individual	
Family	\$50
Associate	\$100
Sustaining	\$250
Sponsor	\$500
Patron	\$1,000
Benefactor	\$2,000



**Book signing** Saturday afternoon,

September 10, in the ICF Gift Shop and at the evening banquet. Pre-order copies of Jane on a Crane through our on-line gift shop: www.savingcranes.org

# ICF's Annual Meeting Saturday, September 10, 2005

11:00 Whooping Crane

Please join us for a day of sharing and recommitment to conserving cranes and their ecosystems around the world. Our open house activities and the banquet presentation – with guest speakers from this country and abroad together with ICF's Jim Harris - will feature stories of where ICF has been and where we're headed...including glimpses of Mesopotamian wetlands in Iraq, a crane haven in North Korea, the China-Russia border, and crane flyways extending from Sweden all the way to Africa. The evening will leave you exhilarated and proud!

Please register to attend the ICF Annual Meeting by Friday, September 2, 2005 using the form below. After we receive your registration, we will send you a confirmation letter, additional information, and directions to the evening banquet. If you have any questions, please contact Ann Burke at 608-356-9462 ext. 147, aburke@savingcranes.org.

8:00 - 11:30 (Trip length depends upon water levels) Float down the Baraboo River! Before your inflatable canoe journey begins, you will learn how the Baraboo River has changed since dams were removed four years ago. Pre-registration and payment is required by September 9, 2005. The discounted rental fee for ICF members is \$41.15 (includes tax) per boat with a 2 person occupancy. To register, please contact Boo Canoe and Raft by phone: 608-356-8856. Check out their website at: www.boocanoe.com. Trip participants should plan to arrive at Haskins Park in West Baraboo by 8 am. Directions to Haskins Park are available at www.savingcranes.org (under the "What's New" section in the article entitled Annual Meeting 2005).

9:00 - 5:00 "Cranes in our Lives." Art exhibit by Marilyn Peretti and Judith Leppert.

9:00 Ecosystem Hike. Why ICF's home site is so beautiful.

9:30 Crane Count: Past, Present, and **Future.** The 30th anniversary of our longest running outreach program.

10. 1. and 2:00 Tour of the "Cranes of the World."

10:00 Why are Flyways Important? An entertaining demonstration...flyway games.

Mailing Address:

Name how it appears on card:

I would like the sliced roast sirloin of beef #

I would like the half herb roasted chicken # \_\_\_\_\_

Pay by Credit Card (Visa/MasterCard/Discover) # \_\_\_\_

I would like the seasonal vegetarian plate # \_\_\_\_

Name (1):

Name (2):

Email Address:

City:\_

Please clip and send with check payable to the International Crane Foundation

Attn: Annual Meeting PO Box 447, Barahoo, WI 53913

I would like to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ tickets to the Annual Meeting Banquet @ \$28 each for a total of \$\_

\_\_\_\_\_I cannot attend, but please send me a copy of the annual report.

12:00 Achieving the Improbable the founding of Russia's Muraviovka Park for cranes and people. Presentation

**Conservation.** Surprises from 2005.

by Sergei Smirenski. 12:15 and 1:45 An Insider's Look at the new Isolation Chick Rearing

Facility! An extraordinary building

almost always off limits. 1:10 - 2:00 Dedication Ceremony for the Isolation Chick Rearing Facility. Please join ICF Board of Directors and staff for the official dedication of our

2:45-3:45 The Key to Crane City.

newest facility.

Crane City, ICF's off exhibit breeding facility, is only open to the public once a year. Our Crane Conservation Department staff will introduce you to the cranes and relate many stories about their life histories.

2:45 Learn about Black-necked **Crane Migration.** ICF partners with Chinese researchers on a satellite tracking study.

3:30 Hot Topics in Crane Medicine.

Zip\_

Exp. Date \_

4:00 Prairie Restoration Hike.

5:00 pm GATES CLOSE

2 2
Ballroom, Ho-Chunk Casino Hotel and
Convention Center (Cash bar). Enjoy
crane videos, live music, silent auction,
and book signing by Jane Dana, author
of Jane on a Crane and Illustrator, Victor
Bakhtin.
<b>6:30 Dinner Choices:</b> Sliced Roast

5:30 Hospitality Hour: Upper Dells

Sirloin of Beef au Jus, served with a baked potato; half herb roasted chicken accompanied by a baked potato; or a Seasonal Vegetarian Plate served with pasta (Please indicate your main entrée choice in the registration form below). Sides: mixed baby greens salad, vegetable, fresh baked rolls, and chocolate dessert.

7:30 Welcome and Business Meeting Joseph Branch, Chairman of the Board

Program to follow.

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS:**

Ho-Chunk Casino Hotel and **Convention Center: \$85** (plus tax) ICF Room Rate. Call 800-746-2486. Rate deadline: September 2, 2005.

Hilton Garden Inn: \$69 (plus tax). Call 608-253-1100 using the ICF Corporate Negotiated Rate Program. Rate deadline is September 2, 2005. However, ICF's negotiated room rate is available year round. Shuttle services are available from the Hilton Garden to the Ho-Chunk Convention Center. To learn more about this comfortable, mid-scale inn, please visit: www.wisdells.gardeninn.com

For other lodging options, contact the Baraboo Area Chamber of Commerce at 800-227-2266 or www.baraboonow.com: or the Wisconsin Dells Visitor and Convention Bureau, 800-223-3357 or www.dells.com