

The ICF *Bugle*  
*Inspiring a Global Community*

2006 Annual Report Issue

Volume 33, Number 3

August 2007

## ICF Responds to Threat of Crane Trade in Africa

By Kerry Morrison, Manager, African Cranes, Wetlands and Communities Program

Cranes are revered across the world. Yet their special value leads to illegal removal from the wild. In Africa, we believe trade in cranes to be a major threat to all four endemic species – Grey and Black Crowned, Blue and Wattled. In response, the African Crane Trade Project was initiated by ICF and the Endangered Wildlife Trust in mid-2006.

We found that people take cranes for diverse reasons, including domestication, or the taming and keeping of cranes for personal use. Domesticators report cranes do not usually live long, are prone to diseases and injury, and have very low breeding productivity – accordingly, there is continuing motivation to remove additional birds from the wild.

The words “illegal animal trade” conjure up images of animals squashed into containers as they travel across country borders undetected. Cranes do not escape this inhumane behavior: they have been doubled up in crates with half standing upright and the others upside down to maximize numbers in a confined space. And this is just one point along the chain between capture and a new life for these cranes, if they survive.

*This project aims to implement a mix of mitigation strategies in order to safeguard healthy, viable wild populations of Africa's cranes. Photo by Mike Endres, Wanderlust Photo*

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We have been surprised to discover that in parts of Uganda and South Africa, Grey Crowned Cranes serve traditional uses for safeguarding monogamy in relationships. Depending on the traditional healer, crane parts are used to repair marriages, woo girlfriends or boyfriends into marriage or to ensure that a partner does not stray. Some use the blood of a crane, others grind the feathers and bones and smear the mixture on their bodies or add it to meals. Others weave crane bones and feathers into their underclothes.

The next issue of the *ICF Bugle* will report on a workshop that will convene in October. Participants will assess our recent field investigations and create a prioritized action plan for mitigating the impact of trade on cranes. Given the complexity and scale of the problem, we believe success in reducing illegal trade can only happen through partnerships involving many people and organizations.

Project support has come from the Whitley Fund for Nature, SeaWorld and Busch Gardens Conservation Fund, Lufthansa, North of England Zoological Society / Chester Zoo Keeper for a Day Fund, North Carolina Zoo, Orient Express Safaris, The Dohmen Family, World Association of Zoos and Aquaria (WAZA) and the Johannesburg Zoo.

## Make Way for the Chicks!

By Marianne Wellington,  
ICF Chick Rearing Supervisor

In anticipation of productive chick rearing this spring, ICF partnered with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) volunteers to build two new ponds in the exercise yards of the Felburn-Ledeigh Chick Rearing Facility. A small pond in the north yard provides an area for young chicks to bathe, swim and forage. The larger pond, with a central island, provides varying depths of water to encourage socializing and foraging in preparation for their transfer to the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge (NWR).

Later in May, ICF returned the favor by sending a crew to Necedah NWR to work on the chick rearing facilities at Site 3. The Direct Autumn Release (DAR) birds are transferred to this site in July where they are raised on the refuge until release. Two modifications were made to the enclosed pen in the marsh: smaller vinyl-coated mesh was attached to the perimeter fence of the "night pen", and the electric fence was upgraded for continued protection from predators.

Special thanks go to The Nartel Family Foundation, the ICF Site Maintenance team, ICF intern Taffy Bannon, USFWS interns Eva Szyszkoski and Danielle Desourdis, and USFWS volunteers Larry Schmitt and Roger Bean who assisted in the creation of the ponds. With these improvements to ICF and Necedah Site 3, we have more flexibility to manage the 8-12 chicks planned for DAR this year.



## Notes from ICF President Jim Hook . . .

Successful Transitions at ICF

**May 9, 2007 was a red-letter day as two long-time International Crane Foundation colleagues were recognized for their significant contributions to conservation.**

The Wisconsin Historical Society honored the lifetime achievements of five top leaders with ties to the state at its second annual History Makers Gala in Milwaukee. As the evening's first honoree, George Archibald was saluted with the Society's Aldo Leopold Award for Distinction in Environment and Conservation, an award appropriately named for the conservationist considered to be the father of wildlife ecology. In the ceremony, George was recognized as one of the greatest conservation champions of the past century whose dedication to crane research, public education, habitat preservation and captive breeding of cranes for release into the wild is widely recognized. Congratulations to George for this richly deserved award.

On the same date, at a ceremony in Washington, D.C., Terry and Mary Kohler and the flight team of Windway Capital Corporation, who have made significant contributions to the recovery of the endangered Whooping Crane, were honored by the U.S. Department of the Interior. Secretary of the Interior, Dirk Kempthorne, presented the department's Cooperative Conservation Award. The award recognizes conservation achievements by groups of diverse partners, including federal, state, local and tribal governments, non-government organizations and individuals. Long-time supporters of ICF programs worldwide, the Kohlers and the Windway team have donated time, equipment and funds that have been among the keys to the success of the reintroduction of an eastern

migratory population of Whooping Cranes. Accompanied by Aviculturist Sara Zimorski, it was my privilege to join the Windway team at the ceremony to witness this much deserved recognition.

And speaking of the Kohlers, I just finished the new book available in ICF's giftshop, *Chasing the Ghost Birds*, by David Sakrison (craneshop.org). The book tells the tale of a broad constituency of biologists, conservationists, aviculturists, pilots, grad students, benefactors and volunteers who have worked together to restore Trumpeter Swans and Whooping Cranes to their historic ranges, and give Siberian Cranes another chance at survival. For many years, the Kohlers have supported our efforts to move cranes, eggs and people around the world in pursuit of the mission to save the cranes. It's a great story about ICF and testament to a couple of our most generous benefactors. Thank you, Terry and Mary, for all you do to save cranes.

As I complete my first year as the ICF President, I feel happy with the decision I made to join the cranes. What a year it has been. I've seen the tragedy of the lost "Class of 2006" but am now eagerly following the "Class of 2007" as both ultralight-led and Direct Autumn Release chicks begin their journey as future members of the eastern migratory population. Partners and cranes alike are looking to add record numbers to the flock which could exceed 25 birds. I've been to the Platte River to see the Sandhills and have experienced my first Bird-a-thon where I was coached to listen as well as watch. Throughout my year, I have come to appreciate the value of colleagues, from all parts of the world and from all walks of life, and their willingness to spend a minute passing on facts and pearls of wisdom to broaden my perspective. I look forward to getting to know all of you better over the course of this season and at our Annual Meeting on September 22, 2007.

## Celebrating and Protecting the Cranes and Wetlands of Africa

By David Koehler, Director of Development

*The International Crane Foundation (ICF) is poised to make strategic investments that would have a profound impact on our work to promote and protect the cranes unique to Africa.*

### New African Crane Exhibits at ICF

As a place of gathering, research, education and inspiration, our campus in Wisconsin plays a vital role in pursuit of our mission to protect cranes and their habitats around the world. It is also home to our resident flock of cranes including the world's only collection of all 15 species—over 120 individual cranes important for scientific, genetic and reproductive purposes.

Each year, approximately 25,000 people visit our cranes. As many of you know, seeing these birds live—hearing their calls, witnessing their movements—touches people in profound ways. Such experiences inspired George Archibald and Ron Sauey to found ICF in 1973 and to dedicate their lives to crane conservation. Today, offering these experiences provides ICF a powerful way to reach people's hearts and minds with the story of cranes and the opportunities for their protection.

To strengthen this tool and the linkage between our exhibits and on-the-ground conservation programs, we envision creating new spaces to display our Blue, Wattled, Grey and Black Crowned Cranes. These exhibits will emulate the habitats in which these species are found and provide more natural, comfortable living conditions for the cranes (our celebrated Whooping Crane Exhibit is a good model). As we design the exhibits, we will emphasize sharing the cranes' stories—their cultural and ecological significance and the strategies that have led to their successful protection. We seek to inspire new leaders for conservation and believe that enhancing our exhibits—and the opportunities for students, families and donors to connect with the cranes—is a powerful approach.

We've completed initial planning to envision how these improvements might fit with the larger ICF campus into the future. Beginning this fall, we will enter a detailed exhibit planning process assisted by an interdisciplinary team of aviculturists, educators, organizational leaders and design consultants.

### Expanding Conservation Programs in Africa

Complementing our education and outreach efforts at home, ICF has worked for over a decade with the Endangered Wildlife Trust and other partners to better understand the status and conservation needs of cranes and their wetland habitats in Africa. This research has guided an array of field conservation activities. Over the years we've made tremendous progress. The status and distribution of the Black Crowned, Blue and Wattled Cranes are now well understood. Community-based projects to protect cranes and improve livelihoods have been initiated in Kenya, Uganda and Zimbabwe. The Marromeu Complex of the Zambezi Delta has gained global attention and was designated a Ramsar site by the intergovernmental Convention on Wetlands.

To build on these successes and to strengthen ICF's effectiveness at advancing conservation opportunities, ICF seeks to expand its African activities in coming years to:

- Investigate the trade (illegal trafficking) of cranes and develop and implement strategies to abate these serious threats;
- Grow existing and develop new programs to build the capacity of partners, communities, and local governments to protect cranes and their habitats;
- Achieve regional collaboration and research projects to better understand protection needs for the African Wattled Crane;
- Expand knowledge about the status and distribution of Grey Crowned Cranes and develop a conservation plan for this East African subspecies; and
- Identify and take strategic actions to advance conservation of the Black Crowned Crane.

These actions are essential to a secure future for these species and the continued existence of healthy natural places for cranes and humans alike.



Adult Wattled Crane on display at ICF.  
ICF Archives

### Celebrating and Protecting the Cranes and Wetlands of Africa and Beyond

To raise the funds needed to realize these ambitious goals, ICF will celebrate African cranes through our annual campaign this fall. As we strengthen our capacity to protect Africa's cranes, we will also advance our other projects around the world, such as reintroduction of Whooping Cranes into eastern North America, reducing damage to corn caused by growing numbers of Sandhill Cranes in the Midwest, and our work in Asia to ensure that essential wetlands persist and local livelihoods are strong so that cranes and humans may coexist.

Recently, the Dohmen Family Foundation committed a generous gift of \$1.5 million to ICF for this work, and to launch this campaign. We are now seeking additional donors to help us reach our ambitious campaign goal of \$2.1 million. This fall, we will invite our members to join in this exciting effort. You can help make these tremendous opportunities into realities for cranes in Wisconsin and around the world. Please give thoughtful consideration to how you might like to be involved in this meaningful initiative, and look for more information in your mailbox this fall. You may also use the envelope in the center of this Bugle to make a gift at this time.

*Through the extraordinary generosity of the Dohmen Family Foundation, along with the involvement of new donors and longtime friends, we plan to:*

- Build new exhibits on our campus in Wisconsin to enhance conditions for our African cranes and our ability to raise awareness about the importance of their conservation;
- Expand on-the-ground projects in Africa to protect wild cranes and the most important places for their survival; and,
- Advance all of ICF's programs to protect cranes and their habitats worldwide.



# Field Notes - 2007

## Continued Progress in Preventing Crane Damage to Seedling Corn

By Anne Lacy, ICF Sandhill Crane Projects Manager

This season was the second year that the chemical anthraquinone, sold under the name Avitec™ was used to deter cranes from damaging newly planted seed and germinating corn in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota. Results from the field in 2007 are encouraging! Cooperating with area farmers, we tested the efficacy of the chemical for the first time available in a liquid seed coat form as well as a powder hopper box treatment. In our study area we monitored both crane use and corn planting. In these fields we recorded an estimate of the number of seedlings in areas used by cranes and areas where we have not observed cranes foraging. The fields treated with Avitec™ retain more seedlings per meter even in areas used by cranes. As you can see in the picture, corn seed from a corner of an untreated field (left side) was eaten by cranes; the area treated with liquid Avitec™ (right and top) was left intact. We are committed to facilitating communication between the corn growers and the Avitec™ manufacturer to work out remaining product issues in the coming years.



Treated with Avitec™



From left, Douglas Hykle, Khairbek Mussabayev, and Vera Inyatina who is holding five small crane figurines symbolizing the five sites approved for Kazakhstan. Photo by Crawford Prentice

## Siberian Crane Range States Meet to Protect the "Lily of Birds"

By Mary Mercier, Communication Coordinator, UNEP/GEF Siberian Crane Wetlands Project

In May, eleven countries came together in Almaty, Kazakhstan to talk about conservation of the elusive Siberian Crane. This gathering was the Sixth Meeting of the Range States under the Convention for Migratory Species Memorandum of Understanding for Siberian Cranes. Representatives openly brainstormed on critical issues and reached consensus on conservation actions for the roughly 3,500 Siberian Cranes that survive.

One of the noteworthy outcomes was the official launch of the Western/Central Asian Site Network for Siberian Cranes and other Waterbirds, recognizing an initial 10 sites from five countries. The Site Network will focus conservation efforts on sites of international importance for the Siberian Crane along its West and Central Asian flyways. An Action Plan will be developed to provide training and support to reserve staff while encouraging exchanges and partnerships among sites.

In addition, comprehensive conservation plans for each of the three flyways were developed collaboratively. Delegates agreed to explore the possibility of an international trust fund to ensure sustainability of the project's activities. Wetlands International, the Cracid Breeding and the Conservation Breeding Center signed the MOU as partners.

To learn more: Visit the GEF Siberian Crane Wetland Project: [www.scwp.info/](http://www.scwp.info/) or [www.cms.int/species/siberian\\_crane/sib\\_bkrd.htm](http://www.cms.int/species/siberian_crane/sib_bkrd.htm)

## Restoration at ICF

By Alison Duff, Field Ecology Project Coordinator

Before joining the ICF Field Ecology Department in October, I coordinated volunteer activities, public outreach and restoration efforts for The Sauk Prairie Conservation Alliance at Badger Army Ammunition Plant (BAAP). I am excited to use and develop these skills on ecosystems at ICF, and see the potential for how restoration can be applied on private lands in Wisconsin and elsewhere in the world. Restorations at ICF headquarters present a unique opportunity to learn from long-term ecological monitoring and to share that information with others. Prescribed burning, for example, is one tool ecologists use to restore native ecosystems because fire is an integral part of these communities' ecology. The Field Ecology burn program is an example of ICF's local efforts to involve private landowners in conservation, which is critical to protecting habitat for a wide range of species—including cranes. This spring our staff burned a number of private sites in Sauk County, and at BAAP, as well as at ICF. Involvement by ICF at BAAP continues a tradition of collaboration and outreach that began with Konrad Liegel in the early 1980s. Now, as the 7,500 acres of BAAP are transferred to new ownership, ICF continues to provide assistance that was only dreamed of 25 years ago. These outreach and research activities make ICF a unique and exciting place to work, and I look forward to the experience of each new season.



Alison collects data as a part of the prairie monitoring program. Photo by Anne Lacy

## Crane Care and Beyond

By Dr. Barry Hartup, ICF Director of Veterinary Services and Cristin Kelley, ICF Veterinary Technician

Caring for the captive crane flock is "Job #1" for the Veterinary Services team at ICF. In the past year, we conducted 569 health evaluations of our cranes, including treatment of acute conditions, annual physical exams and preventive disease testing. But our work extends well beyond individual animal care - we also support ICF's conservation programs, teach veterinary colleagues and students, and conduct research.

In 2006, Dr. Hartup continued to chair the Health Team of the Whooping Crane Eastern Partnership (ICF is the lead health care provider for the reintroduced cranes in Wisconsin). We provided advanced training for four professional colleagues and 15 veterinary students. Last June, Dr. Hartup gave four presentations to the Crane Conservation Coordinating Committee of the Chinese Association of Zoological Gardens in Qiqihar, China. We authored four research reports on topics including emerging infectious diseases (West Nile virus, infectious bursal disease virus) and developmental deformities in Whooping Crane chicks. We also put the finishing touches on an avian influenza (H5N1) prevention plan for the ICF captive crane flock.

Lastly, we are hosting an important workshop of the Whooping Crane Health Advisory Team in September 2007; the first such meeting in 15 years!



Egg swap - Kelly Maguire is holding an egg box that contains a hatching egg just before they give it to the adults in the Whooping Crane exhibit. Left to right, Barry Hartup ICF Vet, Mike Putnam, Curator of Birds, Kelly Maguire, Aviculturist, Cristin Kelley, Vet Tech. Photo by Betsy Didrickson

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INTERNATIONAL CRANE FOUNDATION  
**ANNUAL REPORT 2006**  
 BY JIM HOOK, PRESIDENT & CEO

This past year has been a period of transition for the International Crane Foundation (ICF). We have seen the successful turnover of ICF leadership and the critical rebuilding of our development function. I am very happy to have David Koehler as our development leader and with his new, full complement of staff, expect great things going forward. We have also filled key vacancies in our Crane Conservation and Field Ecology departments and expect to hire a Director of Conservation Education before the end of the year.

As I look back on my first year as President and CEO, I am pleased with the progress we have made. Infrastructure improvement has focused on a strengthened organization, improved communication and better transparency in our financial reporting. Yet some things stay the same—a testament to the strength of ICF as we continue to have the visionary leadership of George Archibald and the continued support of long-time generous donors and a committed, active Board of Directors. I am pleased that my predecessor, Jim Harris, continues to make a strong contribution to our success, particularly in the international arena. Jim's presence in East Asia and his strong mentoring of our emerging Africa program will have a very positive impact on our future.

We also continue to maintain best-in-class performance in our ability to allocate funds directly to support conservation programs. We typically hold fundraising and administrative expense to 10-12% of total expenditures and have performed within this range again in 2006-07. I have spoken in the past of our Four-Star, Hall of Fame rating with Charity Navigator, a highly respected watchdog of non-profit organizations. We are proud of our financial position and want to share the story with our broad membership.



Water lily. ICF archives

For the first time, in an effort to more broadly distribute our financial results, we include this year's annual report for the twelve months ending March 31, 2007, in the summer issue of *The ICF Bugle*. Although both sources and uses of funds in 2006-07 are down slightly from the previous year because of a reduced capital budget, we had an active and positive year. We continue to see strong growth in net assets, the best measure of our net worth as a foundation. This trend reflects very strong growth in our endowment.

This next year promises to be exciting. We are bringing our well-crafted Master Site Plan back onto the near term horizon and will begin design work late this summer for the first exhibits we hope to open in April 2009. What we are now calling the Africa exhibits will involve very substantial rework of our existing Wattled Crane enclosure, located just west of our Gift Shop. The new exhibits will feature natural settings for the African cranes and strong interpretation of our field conservation efforts on the African continent. This exciting work will be featured in our 2007 annual campaign. We are thrilled to report a very generous gift by ICF Director Bob Dohmen and family, through the Dohmen Family Foundation, that will provide strong support for this project and our Africa programs. We expect the Africa exhibits to be the first in a series of steps we take to renew and enhance our public areas as we implement our Master Site Plan.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our Annual Meeting scheduled for Saturday, September 22, 2007. We have a great event planned and would like to share our promising future with you. Thank you for finding this work meaningful and for your generous support which makes it all possible.

*Jim Hook*

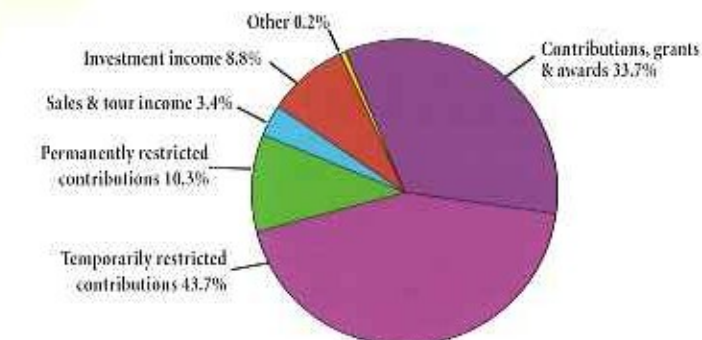
INTERNATIONAL CRANE FOUNDATION  
**ANNUAL REPORT 2006**  
 FINANCIAL SUMMARY  
 APRIL 2006 - MARCH 2007

**STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

Years ended March 31, 2007 and 2006

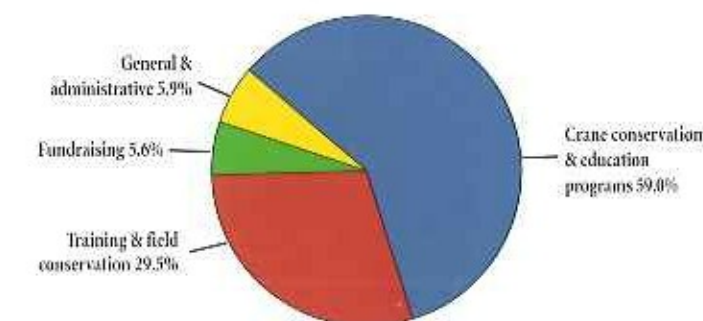
ASSETS	2007	2006
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,412,146	\$811,339
Accounts receivable	10,570	229
Grants receivable	14,584	52,107
Unconditional promises to give - current portion	273,000	19,120
Inventories	62,075	36,576
Prepaid expenses	6,139	6,532
Investments	4,730,959	4,611,147
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>6,509,473</b>	<b>5,537,050</b>
Property and Equipment, net	1,999,005	2,170,389
<b>OTHER ASSETS</b>		
Unconditional promises to give - net of current portion	223,000	14,120
Beneficial interest in charitable remainder trusts	764,102	764,102
Cash surrender value of life insurance policy	-	82,633
Investments permanently restricted	2,880,542	2,298,372
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>3,867,644</b>	<b>3,159,227</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>12,376,122</b>	<b>\$10,866,666</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
Accounts payable	135,131	\$107,134
Accrued expenses	98,376	120,753
Deferred revenue	32,000	-
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>265,507</b>	<b>227,887</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted	7,822,476	7,617,621
Temporarily restricted	1,407,597	722,786
Permanently restricted	2,880,542	2,298,372
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>12,110,615</b>	<b>10,638,779</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>12,376,122</b>	<b>\$10,866,666</b>

**SOURCES OF FUNDING**



Source	Amount	Percentage
Contributions, grants & awards	\$1,913,681	33.7%
Temporarily restricted contributions	2,480,027	43.7%
Permanently restricted contributions	582,170	10.3%
Sales & tour income	192,581	3.4%
Investment income (loss)	500,050	8.8%
Other	11,133	0.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,679,642</b>	<b>100%</b>

**USE OF FUNDS**



Use	Amount	Percentage
Crane conservation & education	\$2,481,065	59.0%
Training & field conservation	1,242,433	29.5%
Fundraising	237,530	5.6%
General & administrative	246,758	5.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,207,806</b>	<b>100%</b>



## ANNUAL REPORT 2006

## CONTRIBUTIONS APRIL 2006 – MARCH 2007

The International Crane Foundation thanks the following donors who generously supported our work with gifts of \$500 or more during the last fiscal year.

**\$100,000+**

George Archibald  
Bobolink Foundation  
Renuka and P.R. DasGupta  
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**\$10,000 – \$99,999**

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**\$1,000 – \$9,999**

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Virginia Metcalf and Mary Yeakel  
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Margaret P. Nuttle  
Oak Lodge Foundation  
Nancy and John O'Donnell  
Oklahoma City Zoo  
Philip and Cassandra Ordway  
Scott Pauley  
Regina Phelps  
Port Aransas Area  
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Janet and Andy Raddatz  
Charles Reeves Jr.  
Grace Jones Richardson Trust  
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Jim and Kitty Rogers  
Pleasant T. Rowland Foundation  
Jean Rowley  
Norman and Alice Rubash  
Kathleen Ryan  
Katherine B. Andersen Fund  
of The Saint Paul Foundation  
Edwin Sauey  
Glen Schuster  
Henry F. Sears  
Maggie Seeger  
Ira Shapiro  
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*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 questions? Please write Kate at [kate@saueyicrf.org](mailto:kate@saueyicrf.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	\$35
Family	\$50
Associate	\$100
Sustaining	\$250
Sponsor	\$500
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# More Field Notes - 2007



Students from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Vietnam immersed in their wetland ecology class at U Minh Thuong National Park, Vietnam. Photo by Tran Triet

## Success in Southeast Asia

By Jeb Barzen, ICF Field Ecology Director and Tran Triet, ICF Director of Southeast Asia Programs

Decades of work is paying off in Vietnam. At Tram Chim National Park, water management schemes developed in the early 1990s, have now been implemented for three years in a row. As a result, cranes have reversed their decline as floodplain recession vegetation has recovered. These results come through the efforts of ICF, the IUCN, the U.S. Forest Service, dedicated staff at Tram Chim, graduate students at Vietnam National University-Ho Chi Minh and Can Tho University, and others. Through similar collaboration, ICF and the International Finance Corporation

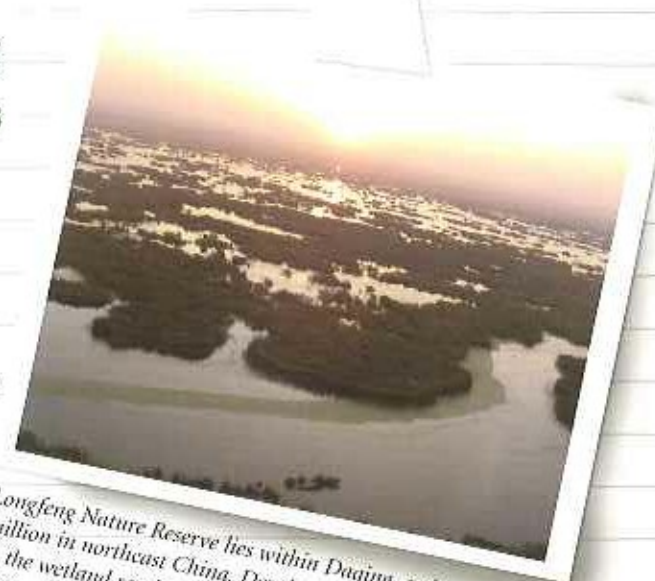
(IFC) were honored with the UN-Habitat/Dubai Municipality "International Award for Best Practices to Improve the Living Environment." The joint wetland conservation project in Vietnam links the welfare of Phu My residents with conserving the last remaining *Lepironia* grassland in the Mekong Delta. In addition to these intensive, site-based activities, ICF has worked to improve the capacity of wetland scientists living in Southeast Asia. To that end, the fifth training in wetland ecology was just completed at the Hoa An Field Station of Can Tho University. The 20 graduating students increase the number of participants over the last five years to 120 hailing from 11 participating universities of Lao P.D.R., Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam.

## Satellite Images Assist Discovery of New Wetlands Important to Cranes in Northeast China

By Su Liying, Research Associate

In recent years, with growing human demand for water, many wetlands are shrinking in northern China, and some are disappearing. I have studied the wetlands of Songen Plain, important for cranes and other waterbirds in the breeding season and for Siberian Cranes stopping on migration to and from the Siberian tundra where they breed. Satellite images make it clear that, aside from Zhalong Marsh, the largest of these wetlands now lie near Daqing. In particular, sizable wetlands lie north of Daqing Reservoir and extend east to Hongqi Reservoir. These wetlands have survived and grown, due to the protection of the city's sources of drinking water and gradual seepage from the reservoirs. A broad range of wet meadows and grasslands lie adjacent. Varying rainfall creates dynamic shifts each year among open water lakes, reed marshes, wet meadows, and grasslands providing different types of habitat for many birds.

These wetlands play a similar role to well known wetlands, such as Zhalong and Xianghai. This past mid-October, I was lucky to visit Daqing and see Siberian, Red-crowned, Hooded and White-naped Cranes with many other species of ducks and migratory birds. Now these wetlands are being considered for protection, for the sake of the migratory cranes and other birds.



Longfeng Nature Reserve lies within Daqing, a city of over a million in northeast China. Density of waterfowl is very high, as the wetland receives strong protection as part of the city's water treatment program. Photo by Su Liying



Having Fun with Botany

ICF's 2007 Annual Meeting celebrates the power of partnership and the global community of scientists, educators, and people like you who care about cranes.

For 34 years, ICF's conservation achievements have stemmed from our openness to the perspectives and experiences of others. Linking crane conservation with broad ecological and social issues, our programs demonstrate that solutions to the challenges facing cranes and their ecosystems are possible when diverse people work together.

Join us Saturday, September 22 and meet the ICF staff members from around the world who are making a difference because of your active support.

Please use the form below to register for the evening banquet only.

**9:00-5:00: Cranes of India Photo Exhibit.** Meet Gopi Sundar, ICF Research Associate (India). Throughout the day, Gopi's wife, Swati, will demonstrate sari wearing and henna application techniques.



**9:00 - 5:00: Muraviovka Park for Sustainable Land Use** and ICF's involvement with the Travel Green Wisconsin program.

**10, 1, and 3:00: Cranes of the World** guided tours.

**10:00 - 12:00: Having Fun with Botany.** Alison Duff, Field Ecology Program Assistant, and Tran Triet, ICF Director of Southeast Asia Programs.

**10:00 - 2:00: Children/Adult Activities**

**10:30 - 11:30: Radio Tracking Demonstration.** Matt Hayes, ICF Research Associate (USA).

**11:00 - 12:00: China Flyway Project.** Learn about ICF's new program that combines research and survey projects with international education programs to safeguard wetlands along the crane flyway in eastern Russia and China. Li Fengshan, China Program Coordinator, and Sara Moore, Education Specialist China Program.

**11:00 - 1:00: An Update on the Whooping Crane Flock.** Sara Zimorski, Aviculturist.

**12:00 - 2:00: An Innovative Game about African Wetlands.** Kerry Morrison, ICF/EWT Partnership (South Africa).

**12:30: A Behind the Scenes Tour of the ICF Veterinary Department.** Cristin Kelley, Veterinarian Technician.

**12:30 - 2:30: A Solution for Reducing Crane Crop Damage.** Anne Lacy, Sandhill Crane Projects Manager.

**1:00 - 2:00: Cranes and Powerlines.** Jon Smallie Eskom - EWT Strategic Partnership (South Africa).

**2:30 - 3:30: A Guided Tour of Crane City.** A rare opportunity to visit ICF's off-exhibit crane breeding facility.

**2:30 - 3:30: Stories from the Siberian Crane Flyway.** Mary Mercier and Tim Moermond, Communications Coordinators, UNEP/GEF Siberian Crane Wetlands Project.

**3:30: Hot Topics in Crane Medicine.** Dr. Barry Hartup, ICF Veterinarian.

**3:30: Prairie Restoration Hike.** Jeb Barzen, ICF Director of Field Ecology, and Alison Duff.

**5:00: GATES CLOSE.**

Registration is required for the following activities held at the **Ho-Chunk Casino Hotel and Convention Center:**

**5:30: Hospitality Hour:** Upper Dells Ballroom (cash bar). Enjoy nature images by photographer, Al Perry.

**6:30: Dinner. Meal Choices:** 1) Two fire grilled shrimp skewers served with saffron rice; 2) sliced roast sirloin of beef au jus served with a fresh baked potato; or a 3) seasonal vegetarian plate served with pasta. (Please indicate your main entrée choice on the registration form below). Sides: mixed baby greens salad, green beans almondine, fresh baked rolls, coffee, milk, ice tea, or soda.

**7:30: Welcome and Business Meeting** Joseph Branch, ICF Board Chair and ICF CEO, Jim Hook.

**Program:** Includes presentation by George Archibald, ICF Co-founder.

## ACCOMMODATIONS:

**Ho-Chunk Casino Hotel and Convention Center:** \$85 (plus tax) ICF Room Block Code: ICF2. Call 800-746-2486.

**Rate deadline: September 8, 2007.**

**Hilton Garden Inn:** \$69 (plus tax) Call 608-253-1100 using the ICF Room Block. Shuttle services are available from the Hilton Garden to the Ho-Chunk Convention Center. Visit [www.hiltongardeninn.com](http://www.hiltongardeninn.com)

For other lodging options, contact the Baraboo Area Chamber of Commerce at 800-227-2266 or [www.baraboonow.com](http://www.baraboonow.com); or the Wisconsin Dells Visitor and Convention Bureau, 800-223-3557 or [www.dells.com](http://www.dells.com)

Please clip and send with check payable to the International Crane Foundation  
Attn: Annual Meeting PO Box 447, Baraboo, WI 53913

**RSVP by 9/18/07**

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I would like to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ tickets to the Annual Meeting Banquet @ \$30 each for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
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Please accept our additional gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help support this event.

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Dinner selections (indicate number of each):  
 \_\_\_\_\_ fire grilled shrimp skewers \_\_\_\_\_ sliced roast sirloin of beef au jus \_\_\_\_\_ seasonal vegetarian plate



## Volunteers Make a Difference

By Korie Klink, ICF Volunteer Coordinator

As the International Crane Foundation (ICF) moves through its 34th year, we are constantly reminded of the infinite value of our volunteers. Last year, ICF volunteers donated over 20,000 hours of time... that's equivalent to 10 full-time employees! Our work would be impossible without such extraordinary gifts of time and talent.

The positive impacts are far reaching. Through our Volunteer Naturalist program, volunteers strive to involve each visitor in the complete ICF experience, encouraging them to continue their education about cranes and conservation beyond their visit through field experiences, the internet, and conservation action. Many visitors become ICF members echoing ICF's hopeful messages around the world.

Through our in-depth training and mentoring programs for volunteers, you, too, can become a part of this essential element of ICF. Volunteer opportunities exist throughout ICF.

Should you, or someone you know, wish to volunteer at ICF, please contact the Conservation Education Department by phone at 608-356-9462 x 127 or email at [ed@savingcranes.org](mailto:ed@savingcranes.org).

## Kids are Craniacs too!



Anna Jocham, 12, at ICF sporting new crane t-shirt! Photo by Betsy Didrickson

Anna Jocham, of Big Flats, WI, an ICF member since she was a toddler, created the artwork for this new t-shirt when she was just seven years old. At the time, her father, artist and designer Jay Jocham, was working on original paintings of cranes to be featured on ICF headquarters signage and website. Anna, inspired by her gifted dad, came home from a

visit to ICF and drew her favorite cranes from memory. Gift Shop manager Barb Bluske raves about the new t-shirt, "It's our most popular kid's tee ever!"

The tee is available in our Baraboo Gift Shop or on our website in four colors and kid's sizes 2T, 4T, Youth S, M & L, \$9.99 (+shipping) 608-356-9462 x 121 or [www.craneshop.org](http://www.craneshop.org)

### CRANES of the WORLD



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