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Each young child possess
Bird curiosity,
A trait we must develop
If a watcher he's to be.

To the sincere bird watcher
These words could sound no sweeter
Than a youngster waying brightly,
"look! A new birdie on the feeder."

.....and to the I. O. U.

We here in Cedar Falls
Are glad to have a chance
To entertain the I. O. U.
Your birding may we enhance.

We hope you see just lots of birds
All the time that you are here.
And may it be our fondest wish
That you'll return another year.

BANQUET PROGRAM

40th Annual Convention

Iowa Ornithologists' Union

May 12, 1962

Riverview Park

Cedar Falls, Iowa

I.O.U. HISTORY

Peter C. Peterson, Jr.

Founded in 1923 to increase public sentiment for the study and protection of Iowa birds, and for disseminating ornithological knowledge, the organization has grown to one of about 350 members, many in other states.

There was an Iowa Ornithological Association at the turn of the century. This was disbanded and no organization existed until Walter Rosene and Charles Spiker conceived the idea of forming a new one. Through their influence a part of the program of the Iowa Conservation Association meeting in Ames on February 28, 1923 was devoted entirely to birds. With Dr. T. C. Stephens of Morningside College in charge, the group proceeded to form the Iowa Ornithologists Union. The second and third meetings were held with the Iowa Conservation Association in Ames in the winter, but the fourth meeting was entirely the I.O.U. group, held in Atlantic in May, with a field trip.

Even when it's cold and icy
And the winter's winds do blow,
You'll find our faithful members
Out birding in the snow.

Thus our loyal group has done
For twenty-five years and more.
Club historians have recorded
Events from days of yore.

Now if our club is to endure
Another score and five,
We must pass on the watching art
To keep it e'er alive.

We must do our best
With children far and near,
Talk with them and work with them;
Our message they must hear.

TRIBUTE TO THE CEDAR FALLS AUDUBON SOCIETY
Madeline D. Carpenter

On the twenty-fifth anniversary
Of our Audubon Society
Let us consider watching birds,
A form of club variety.

In a world where we hear talk
Of war, destruction, strife,
We sometimes tend to overlook
The nicer things in life.

Now I don't mean the sort of things
One must go out and buy
But the things that Nature gave us
On the ground, in trees, in the sky.

That's right, I mean our winged friends
In whose company we spend hours
Watching with binoculars
In sunny and shady bowers.

The club membership and especially the officers in early years were predominantly from central and western Iowa. This geographical pattern has shifted to the eastern part of the state, following the general population and cultural shift.

At first the Union issued mimeographed letters, followed by a letter-sized printed bulletin for two years (1929 - 1930), and a quarterly journal, IOWA BIRD LIFE, since 1931. Under the continuous editorship of Fred Pierce during its first thirty years it increased steadily in stature and has long been considered one of the finest of state journals. IOWA BIRD LIFE is exchanged with almost every state bird journal, with many libraries and colleges as far away as Sweden maintaining subscriptions.

In addition to Iowa Bird Life the club printed the DISTRIBUTIONAL CHECK LIST of IOWA BIRDS and provides a 3" x 3" Field Card listing the regular avian inhabitants of the state. A colorful arm patch featuring the state bird, the goldfinch, is also available.

Fall meetings have been held for the past fifteen years, beginning as Sunday picnics with field trips held at Fred Pierce's home in Winthrop and growing to the 1961 meeting in Algona. This was held jointly with the Inland Bird-Banding Association, and covered Saturday and Sunday, including afternoon paper sessions, an evening program, field trips, and banding demonstrations.

The first meeting of the I.O.U. held in Cedar Falls was on May 7-8, 1937. It was attended by 80 people and 150 species were recorded on the field trip, a high which held for many years. The club returned in 1947 on May 10-11, with 137 in attendance and exactly that number of birds as well. The first meeting coincided with the founding of the Cedar Falls Audubon Society and the second with its tenth anniversary.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Forrest Millikin, President, I. O. U.
Dean Roosa, V.P. and Program Chairman, I.O.U.
Fred Pierce, Book Exhibit

Mrs. Florence J. Spring, President, C.F.A.S.
Mrs. John O'Connell, Chairman of Arrangements, I.O.U Mtg.
Mrs. Oren Paine, Mrs. Maybelle Hinkley, Hospitality
Miss Inaz Hilton, Chairman, Banquet
Mrs. Blanche Schwarke, Advanced Registration
Mrs. Lawrence Dawson, Registration
Mrs. Oren Paine, Ticket Sales
Mr. Gustav Hanuske, Program
Mrs. Gustav Hanuske, Publicity
Dr. Martin L. Grant, Field Trips

Special thanks and recognition are due Lee T. Smiley, Cedar Falls, for the hand painted program covers.

Serving as waitresses are members of Cedar Falls Senior Girl Scout Troops.

Now our membership has reached about 75 men and women. The field trips cover a larger area, the enthusiasm is wonderful, but not one bit more than the little group that met in May, 1937.

We were hosts to the 25th annual Iowa Ornithologists' Union in May, 1947. Now we are entertaining you again, and we hope you will find both the weather and the birds cooperative. We are sure that the good fellowship always found at these meetings will make certain that it will be happy and profitable time.

PROGRAM

6:30 P.M. Annual Banquet

8:00 Welcome and Introductions
Forest Millikin, President
IOU

"Swedish Birds"

illustrated talk by
Dr. Paul Errington,
Iowa State University

HISTORY OF CEDAR FALLS AUDUBON SOCIETY
Mrs. Warren Tay

In May, 1937, the Garden Department of the Cedar Falls Woman's Club were meeting at the Woman's Club House. A Ruby-crowned Kinglet flew in a vine by the window. Mrs. Ray Dix identified it and all rushed to see it. From that Ruby-crowned Kinglet, an Audubon Society was formed. Ten ladies signed as charter members. A constitution was drawn up and Mrs. Dix was our first president.

More joined in short time, and a very enthusiastic group were meeting twice a month at the Woman's Club House. Many short hikes were taken. The lists of birds seen were not long, but we were learning.

We had wonderful help from the Iowa State Teachers' College as we grew. Miss Winifred Gilbert, Dr. Martin L. Grant, Dr. Roy Abbott and Dr. C. W. Lantz were always ready to lend a hand in our work.

Contests were conducted through the schools to get the children interested. Essays on bird protection were written. Feed shelves and bird houses were built by the children. Trees and shrubs were planted for food and shelter.

In the year 1946, in cooperation with the Waterloo Society, we sponsored the Audubon Screen Tour Series. Later we sponsored them alone - 15 years in all.

Almost from the beginning we have participated in the annual Christmas count of the National Audubon Society, under the leadership of Dr. Grant.