

*The*

# MICHIGAN AUDUBON

*Newsletter*



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## 1977 National Convention Held "Family Style" in Colorado

The Michigan Audubon Society was represented by at least ten members at the 1977 convention of the National Audubon Society, held June 9-12, near Estes Park, Colorado. President Hubert Zernickow, Arthur Carpenter, and Kenneth Horton were the officially designated delegates.

A record-breaking turnout of nearly 1000 members attended, coming from 47 of the fifty states. The format differed from previous conventions, being "family style" — a sort of cross between a Michigan Audubon campout and a MAS annual meeting. The first two days were given over to field trips, and birding was observed before and between most sessions. There were general assemblies addressed by national figures, and two days of workshops — all very well attended. Saturday workshops, six in number, were concerned with chapter affairs and operational matters. The seven Sunday workshops were devoted to national issues.

Dr. Elvis J. Stahr, NAS president, gave the keynote address on Friday evening. The major address, which opened the Saturday activities, was given by Hon. Cecil D. Andrus, Secretary of the Interior. Other speakers were Hon. Gary Hart, U.S. Senator from Colorado; Hon. James M. Jeffords, Congressman from Vermont; and David Freem of Energy Policy and Planning, the Executive Office of the President.

### RECURRENT THEME

A recurrent theme, expressed by all speakers, was that some good policy decisions concerning environmental and resource matters had been made, but that none would come to pass unless the citizens made themselves heard in decisive numbers by members of Congress, by state officials, and by local government.

Sen. Hart, in a talk fully documented with facts and figures, showed that people who claim there is a conflict between economic progress and protection of the environmental are setting up "phony alternatives." "Environmental and conservation measures are not only compatible with solving our economic and energy problems," he declared, "they are essential ingredients of that solution."

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## Kirtland's Warbler Census Shows 9.5% Gain

The 1977 census of the Kirtland's Warbler showed a 9.5 percent gain over last year's count, according to preliminary figures.

According to William Irvine, U.S. Forest Service, the only unexpected (and disappointing) part of the census was the disappearance of the warblers from the McKinley area in Oscoda County. The counts were a little higher than expected at the Dammon area in Ogemaw County.

The 1977 count, by counties, of singing males: Crawford 79; Oscoda 59; Ogemaw 62; Kalkaska 11; Roscommon 6; Wexford 1; and in the Province of Ontario 1, making a total of 219. Since each singing male is considered to represent a nesting pair, that would make a present population of 438 adult nesting birds, plus this year's young, and non-nesting adults (if any).

A final report will be prepared by the Kirtland's Warbler Recovery Team at a later date, and released for publication.

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