



THE ICF  
**BUGLE**

World Center for the Study and Preservation of Cranes

## Surgery Saves Whooping Crane Chick

By Dr. Barry Hartup, ICF Veterinarian, Michael Putnam, ICF Curator of Birds, and Tania Banak, University Relations Specialist

Thanks to the collective efforts of ICF and the University of Wisconsin, a Whooping Crane named Eliot is alive and fighting after a unique surgery.

Four days after Eliot was hatched at ICF on June 10, 2005, Veterinarian Dr. Barry Hartup noticed she had health problems.

“She had an audible gurgling sound when she exhaled,” he said. When the problem proved unresponsive to medical treatments, the bird went to the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine (SVM), where a CT scan confirmed that foreign material was in the right lung.

A partial lung removal was performed by SVM surgeon Dr. Dale Bjorling on August 11. Pathology tests revealed that the material removed with the lung contained *Aspergillus*, a fungus that causes insidious respiratory disease in birds.

Since the surgery, Eliot is doing well and staff hopes she can become part of the captive breeding flock. Like four older brothers hatched between 2002 and 2004, her sister Kipling was hatched for breeding purposes, but Eliot’s destiny was to join the 2005 “Direct Autumn Release”, while another brother called 11-05 joined the ultralight migration. Unfortunately, Eliot’s surgery keeps her grounded. Recent

tests reveal her problems have subsided, but everyone remains vigilant to prevent a recurrence.

Eliot has more than this surgery to be thankful for. If it weren’t for an earlier collaboration between ICF and the SVM, Eliot would never have hatched. On January 2, 2004, Eliot’s mother O’Malley ruptured a major tendon associated with her right knee. Four days later, the tendon was repaired by SVM orthopedic surgeon Dr. Susan Schaefer, who got her first experience working with cranes as an ICF intern. This often fatal injury healed and the bird walks without a limp. More astonishing, she laid three eggs later that spring.

“I recall a close partnership between ICF and the SVM as far back as my own aviculture internship in 1986,” Barry said. “I remember driving a Red-crowned Crane down to Madison for x-rays of a bad leg – their staff was always excited by the challenges these birds presented.”

Since Barry’s arrival at ICF in 2000, a formal agreement has given ICF greater access to the specialized equipment and facilities at the school, and in turn, provided unique learning opportunities for veterinary students in the fields of avian and conservation medicine.

*The partial lung removal was the first surgery of its kind attempted on a bird as large as a Whooping Crane. Photo by Dr. Barry Hartup*



# Bits and Pieces

Compiled by Kelley R. Tucker, Vice President of Programs

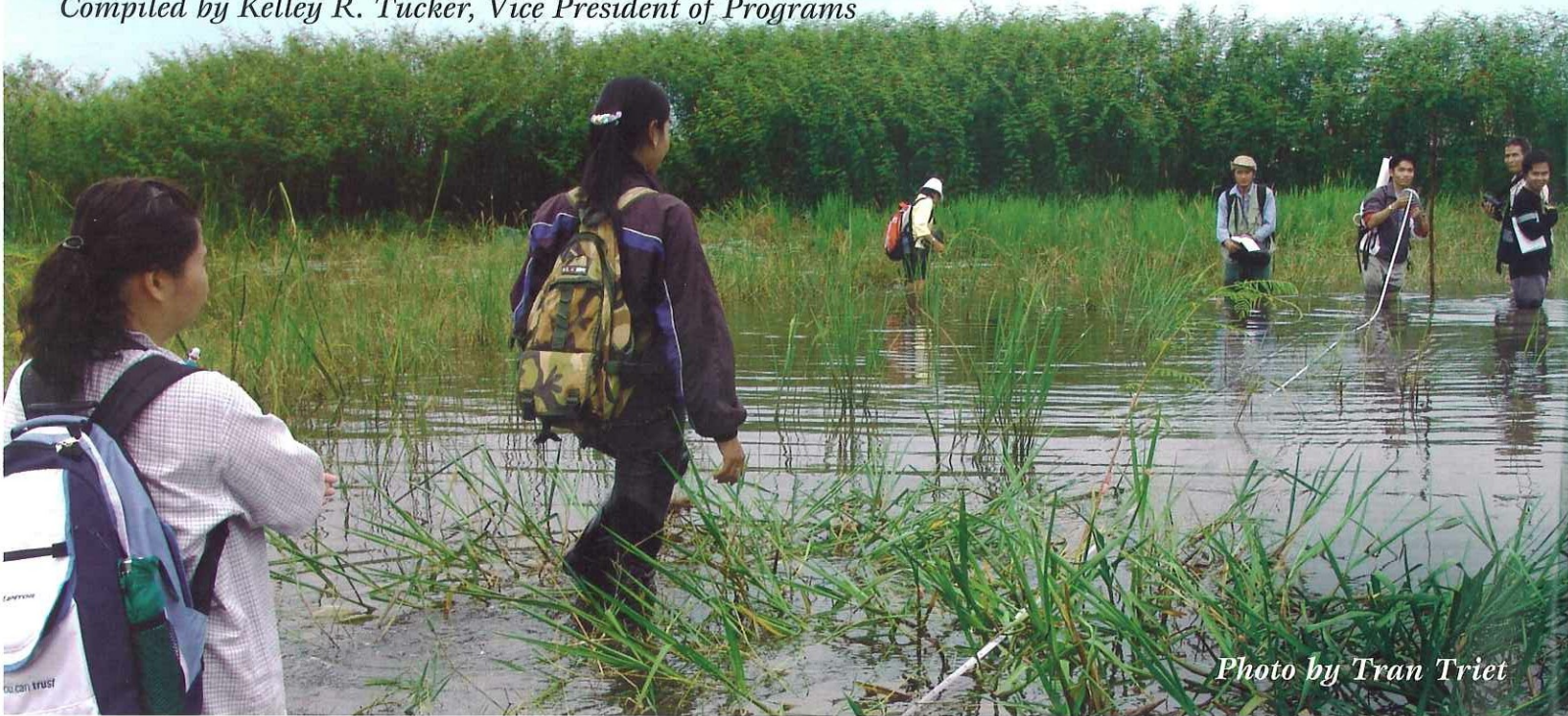


Photo by Tran Triet

*In the last edition of the Bugle we discussed the “big picture” of crane conservation and told you about our renewed vision for ICF. The stories in this issue are some of the pieces of that big picture. Activities on the ground – individual efforts, departmental achievements, even the final product of months, maybe years devoted to reach a goal – serve to inform and inspire our work and provide the foundation for our vision.*

*As you read these “bits and pieces” – in this issue and future issues of the Bugle – we hope you will discover some of the excitement and the big picture themes that characterize ICF’s approach to conservation.*

✎ **This November, construction** will begin on the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelly Family Education Center. ICF’s old chick house will be re-hatched as an anchor facility for teacher training, student workshops, and art exhibitions. The 1,100 square-foot Felburn Interpretive Room will allow visitors to explore – through a dramatic series of exhibits – the intimate relationships between cranes and humans while highlighting the conservation stories that arise from our close connection to cranes. Once funding is secured, the north end of the Donnelley Center will also house a new veterinary holding and rehabilitation area where non-ICF captive birds and injured Whooping Cranes can be held in quarantine for observation and medical treat-

ment. Construction will continue through the winter and the building will be open to the public in spring 2006.

✎ **ICF Aviculturist Kelly Maguire** has just completed her first season of fieldwork in pursuit of a Master’s degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Kelly is studying habitat selection of reintroduced Whooping Cranes on their breeding grounds – the extensive area around the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge – and continues to work at ICF half-time. Kelly’s intimate knowledge of crane rearing and captive bird behavior complements her new tracking skills in fascinating ways. She has observed behaviors of reintroduced birds in the wild that are very similar to behaviors of birds in

captivity. Take “dating” behavior, for example. A female Whooping Crane (13-03) was observed spending time with four different males before settling on one. Among the single males under consideration, several showed their dominance by standing atop small hills and stumps to elevate their heights in addition to using the usual drop-wing and butterfly threats. Kelly has also observed that Whooping Cranes shift their habitat use through the year: moving from agricultural plots to wetlands then on to upland areas where the omnivorous birds forage on wild blueberries and insects.

Kelly’s research is generously supported by the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin and the Charlotte and Walter Kohler Charitable Trust.

**The Gulf Coast states affected** by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita are home to three different centers involved with crane conservation – the Audubon Center for Research of Endangered Species in Belle Chasse, Louisiana (ACRES); the Mississippi Sandhill Crane National Wildlife Refuge in Gautier, Mississippi; and the New Orleans Zoo. Fortunately, the New Orleans Zoo is located on one of the highest points in New Orleans, and water damage and animal loss were minimal.

Megan Lauber, on the ACRES staff and former ICF Intern, tells us that, “as a result of Hurricane Katrina, ACRES lost a total of three cranes either during or after the storm – two Mississippi Sandhill Cranes and one Whooping Crane. One Mississippi Sandhill Crane went missing, but was found a few days later walking in the crane area. All the other cranes and animals on site did very well, including the nineteen Mississippi Sandhill Crane chicks from the 2005 breeding season. The damage to the crane pens was significant, but fixable. Most of the flight netting needs to be replaced, and many of the

shade structures and feed sheds need work. All things considered, I feel lucky that there wasn’t worse damage. We didn’t feel significant effects from Hurricane Rita. There was some wind, but no further damage to the structures.”

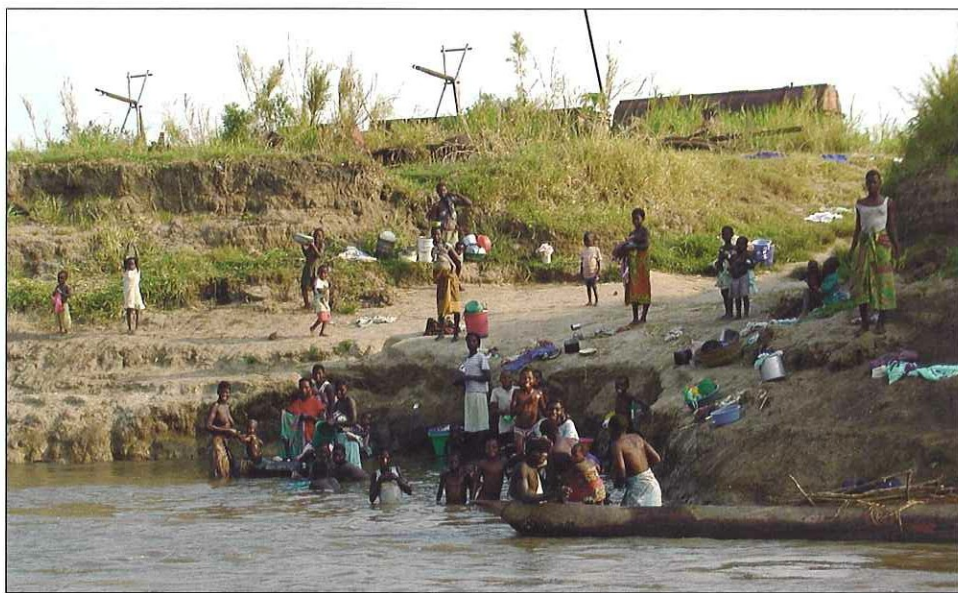
Scott G. Hereford, Mississippi Sandhill Crane NWR Wildlife Biologist, tells us that, “compared to the tremendous damage along the entire Mississippi Gulf Coast, the Mississippi Sandhill Crane NWR fared well. The refuge buildings received minimal wind damage and nearly all the cranes are believed to have survived the storm. However, it will take time to more accurately assess the population because many of the observation blinds were damaged or destroyed. Two cranes died, including a breeding female.”

**In the steamy countryside of Laos,** ICF Field Ecology Department Director Jeb Barzen reports that four instructors and 26 students from 11 universities gathered in August, like the rainy season waters of the Mekong Basin, to study wetlands of the Mekong (see photo on page 2). Young Laotian, Vietnamese, Cambodian, and Thai students created water budgets, interviewed local villagers, collected plant samples, and tested soils to investigate the inner workings of wetlands. The intensive 21-day course immersed students in the scientific method and introduced participants to the collaborative process – forging the bonds needed

**And in Africa –** ICF Africa Program Head Rich Beilfuss helped organize a landmark multi-national workshop this September in Mozambique to develop critical protocols for water flows in the Zambezi River Delta. Specialists attending the workshop assessed the many seemingly competing water needs linked to sustainable management of the Zambezi Delta: multiple scales of agriculture; freshwater and coastal fisheries; floodplain vegetation, and estuarine ecology; needs of livestock, large mammals, and waterbirds; public health; domestic water supply; invasive species; and human settlement patterns. These varying needs and their subsequent water flow requirements were modeled

against one another, and against hydropower generation for the entire Zambezi basin.

Workshop participants reached three major conclusions, with global implications: (1) the different water users in the delta all can benefit from improved flows; (2) there need not be significant trade-offs between flow management for ecological purposes and for social purposes; and, (3) significant improvement in economic and ecological conditions in the delta could be met in nearly all years with minimal or even no reduction in



*Zambezi waters are not only vital for cranes and other wildlife, they sustain the economic and cultural life of people in the delta. How many different water uses do you see in this picture?*  
Photo by Rich Beilfuss

to succeed in any integrated investigation. As these cooperative skills are developed among people of the lower Mekong, the chances are improved for truly regional resource management that cuts across national boundaries. This unprecedented wetland ecology series will be rotated every four years through all of the Lower Mekong Basin countries. The University Network of Southeast Asia sponsored the course and seeks to develop joint research, regional graduate programs, and competent locally-trained wetland ecologists. ICF’s Dr. Tran Triet is a co-founder of the network along with Dr. Sansanee Choowaew (Mahidol University, Thailand) and Dr. Duong Van Ni (Can Tho University, Vietnam).

hydropower generation. Workshop findings will be incorporated in the comprehensive, holistic management plan ICF is helping create for this newly declared “Wetland of International Importance” – an unprecedented effort to link ecological restoration and poverty alleviation in one of the world’s major river systems.

The meeting was convened by Mozambique’s Zambezi Valley Planning Authority, the Museum of Natural History, and Ministry for Environmental Coordination, and sponsored also by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Fisheries, and Ministry of Tourism. Funding for the workshop was provided by the Liz Claiborne and Art Ortenberg Foundation, Carr Foundation, and ICF.

# Crane Celebration

By Elena Ilyashenko, ICF/CMS Siberian Crane Flyway Coordinator and E



*Since 2002, the Crane Working Group of Eurasia (CWGE) has initiated and organized annual Crane Celebrations. Its goal is to provide more information to the public on conserving cranes, among the rarest and most endangered group of birds, and their habitats. Each year, enthusiasm and participation grows. In 2002, 11 sites joined the celebration. This year, nearly 60 sites participated, including locations in Iran and Pakistan.*



*Children have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to connect with and feed captive cranes at the Oka Nature Reserve. Photo by Olga Shirinya*



*Children perform a play about the Siberian Crane releases in the Oka Nature Reserve in the Ryazan Region of Russia. Photo by E. Ilyashenko*

Each region settled on different dates for their 2005 celebration. Most took place in September and October, to see the cranes off on their migration south. But in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, where a few cranes stop to winter, Crane Celebration participants meet the cranes in December and January.

With a special focus on the endangered Siberian Crane, event planners hosted their Crane Celebrations as close to the birds as possible. Events were held in the town of Salekhard in Western Siberia, which contains the western population's breeding grounds, and in Yakutia, within the immediate vicinity of the eastern population's breeding grounds. Events were also held along the migration route of the Siberian Crane: Khingansky, Daursky, and Astrakhansky Nature Reserves; Muraviovka Park for Sustainable Land Use in Russia; Kostanay area in Kazakhstan; and in Uzbekistan near the border of Afghanistan. An excellent Crane Celebration was held in the Oka State Biosphere Nature Reserve where the Oka Crane Breeding Center is located.

Crane Celebrations across Eurasia are filled with children performing plays and dances, poetry and story readings, and concerts. Each activity focuses on cranes and their habitat. In all regions, art competitions are held. Many organizers have sent the art they collected to the CWGE to hold a general art competition



*Art by Victoriya Poloumov*

and to select the best. Winners of the more active and others received certificates.

Many diverse agencies, nature-protected areas, schools, young biologists, colleges and universities attended by children of school age, but in some representatives also p

# Cranes in Eurasia

Executive Director of the Crane Working Group of Eurasia



11 years old, Orenburg Region

works for a future exhibition competition as well as creative festival organizations.

es, including zoos, (zapovedniki), local activists' organizations, and es, help organize the ne events are mostly f pre-school to high e areas local authority rticipate and support

the event. Almost everywhere the Crane Celebration is widely covered in local press and television as well as in the central mass media.

Thanks to the financial support of the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), UNEP/GEF Siberian Crane Wetlands Project, and the Deutsche Lufthansa AG, educational materials including pins, stickers, brochures, calendars, posters and bookmarks are produced and distributed each year for Crane Celebration activities. Included in these materials is the booklet "101 Questions about Cranes" with information on seven crane species of Eurasia that was written by the late Professor Vladimir Flint especially for these events.

If you would like to participate or support the Crane Celebrations in the future, please contact Elena Ilyashenko (eilyashenko@savingcranes.org) or Nadezhda Kiseleva (sopr@dront.ru).



Crane Day auction at Muraviovka Park for Sustainable Use, Amur Region, Russia. Photo by Sergei Smirenski

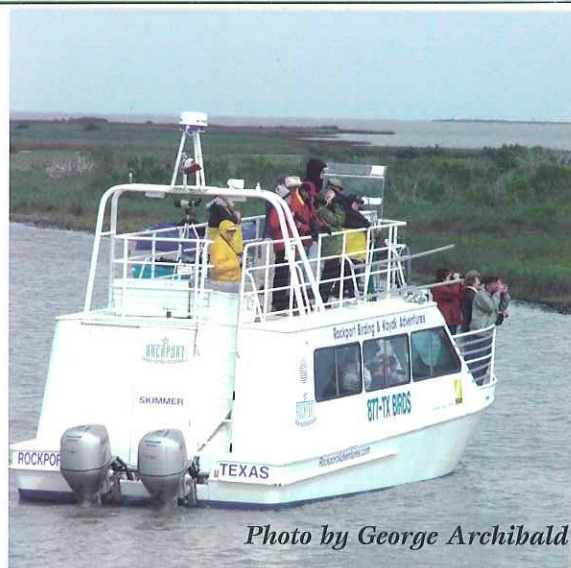


Photo by George Archibald

## Ten Years of Whooping it Up!

By Joan Garland, ICF Education Outreach Coordinator

Each winter for the past 10 years, experienced and novice crane enthusiasts and birders from around the world have flocked together in a small seaside town on Texas' Gulf Coast to observe the rarest crane species, the Whooping Crane, in its wintering habitat at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.

In 1996, in conjunction with the town of Rockport, Texas, ICF co-founded the Whooping Crane Festival. A year later the festival moved to Port Aransas, Texas. This year the festival, "A Celebration of Whooping Cranes and Other Birds," is marking its 10th anniversary. The festival is not only a celebration of Whooping Cranes, but also an opportunity to observe the hundreds of year-round and migratory birds that call Texas home.

The festival includes guided boat trips to view the Whooping Cranes – a unique opportunity to observe this endangered species in its natural habitat. Two of the tours will be led by Dr. George Archibald, ICF's Co-founder. Other activities include seminars and workshops by nationally-recognized speakers and a nature-related trade show.

Please join us as we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Whooping Crane Festival, February 24-26, 2006 in Port Aransas, Texas. For more information, please call 800-45-COAST or visit [www.portaransas.org](http://www.portaransas.org)

# Contributions List, July – September, 2005

## **BENEFACTOR**

Altria Corporate Services, Inc.  
 Antonia Foundation  
 Liz Claiborne & Art Ortenberg  
 Foundation  
 Dellwood Foundation, Inc.  
 Judy Derse-Langenbach and Gery  
 Langenbach  
 Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Dohmen  
 Robert C. Dohmen  
 Karen, Eric, and Duncan Ende  
 Felburn Foundation  
 Foley Family Foundation  
 Jacob & Terese Hershey Foundation  
 IUCN  
 Donna Kingery  
 Dorothy Kopmeier Vallier Foundation  
 Lee Manigault  
 Chauncey & Marion D.  
 McCormick Family Foundation  
 Mead Witter Foundation  
 The Orvis Company, Inc.  
 Christopher Reynolds Foundation  
 Royal Netherlands Embassy  
 Irene Sullivan  
 Trust for Mutual Understanding  
 Margaret Van Alstyne  
 John F. Wick  
 Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Wick  
 Windway Capital Corporation

## **PATRON**

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Chandler  
 Greater Milwaukee Foundation,  
 Lois and Donald Cottrell Fund J  
 Drake Charitable Gift Fund  
 Mr. Thomas Foley  
 Fred and Susan Foster  
 Steven and Suzanne Johnson  
 Terry Kohler  
 Dr. Gary Kuehn  
 Virginia Metcalf and Mary Yeakel  
 Mrs. Gerald Smith  
 Martha Claire Tomkins

## **SPONSOR**

Dr. and Mrs. Keith Becker  
 Mrs. Walter Brissenden  
 Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Conolly, Jr.  
 Cathy Drexler and Wade Mueller  
 Emily Earley  
 Sarah Farley and Betty Tisel  
 Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Gibbons  
 Evan and Marion Helfaer Foundation  
 Dr. Donald Kindschi  
 Brian and Terrie Knox  
 Lee Lenz  
 Michael and Margaret Marshall  
 Merganser Fund  
 Sonogi Pitts  
 Robert Raymond  
 Mary Redway  
 Irene Warning  
 Jack and Carole Wooldrik  
 Joy Yates

## **SUSTAINING**

Robert W. Baird & Company  
 Foundation  
 Bekah Kate's, LLC  
 George W. Blossom, III  
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brumder  
 John and Ann Burton  
 John Erffmeyer  
 Michael Gay  
 Victor & Helen Geisel Foundation, Inc.  
 Lucia Heyworth  
 Hanns and Patty Espeseth Irvin  
 Mrs. Herbert Ivey, Jr.  
 Allen and Valerie Kitchens  
 Claus and Sue Mahler  
 Dr. and Mrs. Andrew Major  
 Patricia A. McCauley  
 Emily McKay  
 McMaster-Carr Supply Company  
 Amos Miner  
 John and Jo Nash  
 Maryann and Thomas Neuses  
 Next Level Communications  
 Nick and Joyce Pabst  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Payson  
 Gordana and Milan Racic

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rasch  
 Gene and Rochelle Robkin  
 Joyce and David Rucinski  
 Mary Ann Seegers  
 Lois Skillen  
 Mowry Smith III  
 Linda Stagemeyer  
 Mr. Richard Tarbox  
 Arlis Techlow  
 Dr. and Mrs. Chet Thomas  
 Tim Tuff  
 Richard and Marjorie Walls  
 Emily White

## **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!

Joseph Branch  
 Robert Brumder  
 Todd Bugg and Keeley Austin  
 David and Dana Efaw  
 Matt Fraker and Sherri Thornton  
 Nancy J. Geenen  
 Nina Griswold  
 Parker and Sherry Jain  
 Joseph and Maria Novotny  
 Irene Sullivan  
 Douglas and Margaret Williams

Congratulations to the following winners of the 2005 Bird-a-thon!

**First Place:** Matt Fraker  
**Second Place:** Viola White  
**Third Place:** Judy Bautch and  
 Emily Campbell

Thanks to these and other participants, ICF has received over \$43,652 in donations through the Bird-a-thon!



**Lufthansa**

**Help our 2005  
 Annual Campaign  
 Launch ICF's  
 Long Range Plan!**

*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@savingcranes.org](mailto: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 .....	\$35
Family .....	\$50
Associate .....	\$100
Sustaining .....	\$250
Sponsor .....	\$500
Patron .....	\$1,000
Benefactor .....	\$2,000

# CARING CHOICES

By Jim Harris, President

*The Whooping Cranes are migrating now, down the long flyway from Wood Buffalo to the Texas coast. Here in Baraboo in November, I wake every morning and look at the sky – our whoopers in Wisconsin will start south with the next cold front. For anyone lucky enough to see these great birds fly past, they remind us that our relationship to the world has changed forever. Whooping Cranes survive today only because of the many choices individual humans have made to care, and to act on that caring.*

Around the world, for more and more of the cranes, we hold their fate in our hands. The declining population of Blue Cranes has been stabilized only because of hundreds of crane lovers and farmers across South Africa. The Red-crowned Cranes of Hokkaido, a wonderful conservation success, might have disappeared in the 1950s if local people had not intervened and fed them when all the waters froze. Now in northeast China, water shortages and development pressures have placed all the crane marshes in jeopardy – the six species there now depend on individual choices, from national leaders down to the nearest villagers.

The work of ICF and its global networks of crane friends are all about individual choices. And so, to honor the “secret” of our success, I love the opportunity each autumn to give the “Good Egg” award to several of the many, many people who care. For me, these awards are the highlight of the Annual Meeting for members.

We love the variety of people who make a difference. This year, Meredith Sheldon was one of our Good Eggs. She has served longer than any other of our “chick parent” volunteers. Even



*Meredith Sheldon had a big surprise at the annual banquet. Photo by Derry Henderson*

now, when the chick yard and hand rearing of chicks has been discontinued, she has helped with isolation rearing. Another Good Egg (actually three) served the chick facility in a very different way. Bruce, JoAnn and Joshua Trager, owners of Trager LLC, moved earth, ran electricity, and gave some of the careful attention that makes the Felburn and Leidigh Chick-rearing Facility a huge boost to Whooping Crane recovery.

Two of our Good Eggs come from the Chicago area. Kent Chandler has served on our Board of Directors for 17 years, with wisdom and humor and great caring. Hall Healy has donated hundreds of hours to help realize our hopes for North and South Koreans to work together for the cranes - we hope to “hatch” a project in North Korea in the coming months.

We did not give Crane Wu, a 79-year-old photographer from Taiwan, a Good Egg because he stopped in Baraboo in September in the middle of travels around the world. He is photographing all the crane species, and has made his beautiful images available for our education work. Eggs are too fragile for his inter-continental travel, nor do they clear customs easily – instead we presented our deep thanks and special recognition.



*Bruce Trager, one of ICF's “Good Eggs” in 2005, prepares ground for our new chick facility. Photo by Dave Chesky*

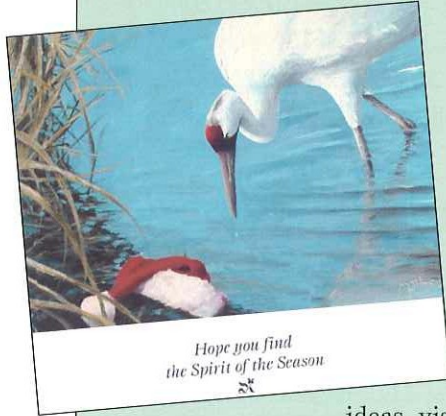


## Fulfilling Our Global Vision: 2005 Annual Campaign Update

We'd like to thank all of our generous members who have contributed so far to the 2005 Campaign mailing sent out in October. Your caring choices, to support our work, are crucial to the cranes. The goal for the 2005 Campaign is \$450,000. This year, your donations will be doubled – through challenge grants from the Bobolink Foundation, the Makray Family Foundation, the Reinhardt H. and Shirley R. Jahn Foundation, and ICF's Board of Directors.

As this Bugle goes to press, ICF has received \$253,144 for this year's Annual Campaign. We need another \$196,856 to reach our goal. If you have not yet had the chance to make your contribution, please consider sending a gift in the enclosed envelope. Your donation will be doubled, and will help make our world a much better place for cranes and their wetlands. Thanks!

## HOLIDAY SHOPPING AT ICF with FREE shipping!



ICF is thrilled to offer these unique crane cards by crane artist extraordinaire, Jay Jocham. These whimsical cards are an ICF exclusive, so order your holiday supply now and receive FREE shipping!

A set of 10 cards and envelopes is just \$20. The message *Hope you find the Spirit of the Season* appears on the inside of the card.

For these and many other gift ideas, visit our online store at [www.savingcranes.org](http://www.savingcranes.org) and click on **Shop**. From November through January 31st, 2006 ICF is offering **FREE SHIPPING** on all web orders shipped in the continental U.S. (offer valid for standard U.S. mail only, does not include overnight, second-day, international, or priority mail).

If you have questions, please contact the Gift Shop Manager: Barbara A. Allard-Bluske • Email: [giftshop@savingcranes.org](mailto:giftshop@savingcranes.org) Telephone: 608-356-9462, ext. 117.

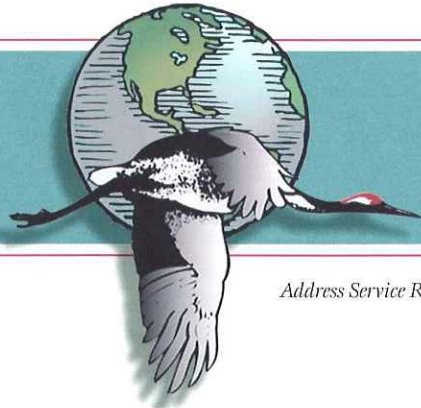
## Follow the Whooping Cranes

Would you like to receive email updates about the status of the Whooping Cranes in the eastern flock, including the 2005 Direct Autumn Release? Please send your email address to the ICF Web Editor at [aburke@savingcranes.org](mailto:aburke@savingcranes.org)

## WEB UPDATES

**Avian Influenza: A Threat to Cranes?** Avian Influenza is dominating the headlines and ICF is closely monitoring the situation. For more information go to [www.savingcranes.org](http://www.savingcranes.org), click on "What's New," and read *Avian Influenza: A Threat to Cranes?* Authored by: Christopher Hanley, DVM – School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Wisconsin-Madison and Barry Hartup, DVM, PhD – Director of Veterinary Services, International Crane Foundation

This issue is dedicated to Professor Kim Sooil 1954-2005 – ornithologist, aviculturist, artist, wood carver, writer, conservationist, singer, and a best friend to Korean birds and their followers.



## International Crane Foundation

E11376 Shady Lane Rd.  
P.O. Box 447  
Baraboo, WI 53913-0447  
[www.savingcranes.org](http://www.savingcranes.org)

Address Service Requested

Nonprofit Org  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
LaCrosse, WI  
Permit No. 25

Printed on 100% Recycled Paper with Soy Ink.

Support our  
Annual Campaign  
"Fulfilling Our Global Vision"  
See page 7