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IOWA CONSERVATIONIST

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IOWA CONSERVATIONIST

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A Pleasant Diversion from Weekly Work

Iowa Conservationist

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COMMISSION MINUTES

March 2, 1971

The following land acquisition options and flowage easements were accepted; Volga River Lake, Fayette County, two options 20 acres and 120 acres; Walters Creek Watershed, Adams County, three flowage easements, 25 acres, 20 acres and 80 acres.

The following County Conservation Board land acquisition projects were approved: Calhoun County, Hickory Grove Park Addition, 25 acres; Clinton County, Walnut Grove Park Addition, 13.50 acres; Jasper County, Beyer's Bridge Access, 131 acres; Mitchell County, New Haven Potholes Area, 165 acres; Sioux County, Big Sioux Park Addition, 1.30 acres.

The following County Conservation Board development plans were approved: Crawford County, Nelson Park revision; Howard County, Lylah's Marsh Recreation Area revision; Jackson County, Lower Sabula Lake Park and Access Area, development plan; Linn County, Squaw Creek Park, development plan; Mitchell County, Riverside Park, development plan; Poweshiek County, Arbor Lake Recreation Area, development plan; Shelby County, Elk Horn Creek Recreation Area, development plan.

Chairman Earl Jarvis presented the Shikar-Safari Club International Award for 1970 to Dr. Keith A. McNurlen. The citation is awarded to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to conservation of natural resources.

Approved the following Land and Water Conservation Fund projects for submission to the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation: Crawford County Conservation Board, Nelson Park, development; Calhoun County Conservation Board, Hickory Grove Park, acquisition 25 acres; Winnebago County Conservation Board, Winnebago River Park, acquisition 46.9 acres; Sac County Conservation Board, Reiff Area, development; City of Davenport, Cork Hill Park, Glen Armil Park, Greenacres Park, Herington Park, Northwest Park, developments; Mitchell County Conservation Board, Riverside Park, development; Mitchell County Conservation Board, New Haven Potholes Area, acquisition 160 acres; City of Davenport, portable playground unit, development.

The following amendment requests were approved for submission to the BOR: ICC Fairport Station Recreation Area, development; Big Creek Recreation Area, acquisition 93 acres.

Approved two Canada Goose Refuges to protect breeding flocks in northwest Iowa near Spirit Lake and Ruthven. Flocks would be protected by excluding these designated areas for taking of Canada geese when regulations are set in the fall.

Camping Safety

by Roger Sparks

It's camping season again. Leading he boom in outdoor recreation, camping dds thousands to its growing lists of articipants each year. Newcomers as ell as veterans might take note of the ew camping safety tips mentioned here:

Many camping accidents are related to re. Modern campers, like homes use lectricity and inflammable fuels to ower appliances . . . lanterns, stoves and eaters. Fires can be started by heaters laced too near combustible material, by anterns falling from hanging places, or rom overloaded outlets. Fires are ex-emely dangerous in tents and campers ecause of their small area. Oxygen is uickly consumed and the fire doesn't ave far to spread to reach the in-abitants. A fire extinguisher may save ves and the best is the foam type. lace or hang at least one of these at a onvenient spot and put it in the same lace every time you camp. Instruct the ntire family on its use and location.

Be careful of fires on the campgrounds oo. Grass fires can be started leading much more serious damage. Bringing urning charcoal into a tent during a ainstorm can cause suffocation. Throw-ng a pail of water onto excessive mounts of burning coals can cause calding from the sudden torrents of team.

Catalytic heaters should be placed next to open air. Because trailers and pickup rigs are mobile, they are subjected to bouncing which can loosen gas line connections. Bottle gas lines should be "sniff checked" before using the appliances.

Other dangers are more subtle. People and animals have been electrocuted by merely touching an ungrounded metal camper. There are many ways to ground and avoid this. Rubber tires do not ground a camper . . . only metal protruding all the way to the ground will do the job. Leveling rods work as long as they are not blocked with wood or other non-metalic material. All of Iowa's state-owned campgrounds have the three hole outlets. The top grounds the current. However if two pronged plugs are used (they fit) another way of grounding must be established.

Trailer hitches vary in size and strength, but most dealers won't let you purchase a trailer hitch incapable of pulling the size trailer you own. Be sure by buying from a dependable dealer. Don't forget the required safety chain.

Backing a trailer into a site takes a little practice and can cause an accident. Children, posts, picnic tables and trees may be difficult to see from the drivers seat. The best way to avoid these problems is to have one person guide the driver from behind the trailer.

Many of Iowa's campgrounds are on or near lakes or streams. Artificial lakes allow swimming and wading in supervised beaches only. Know a stream, river or natural lake before entering the water.

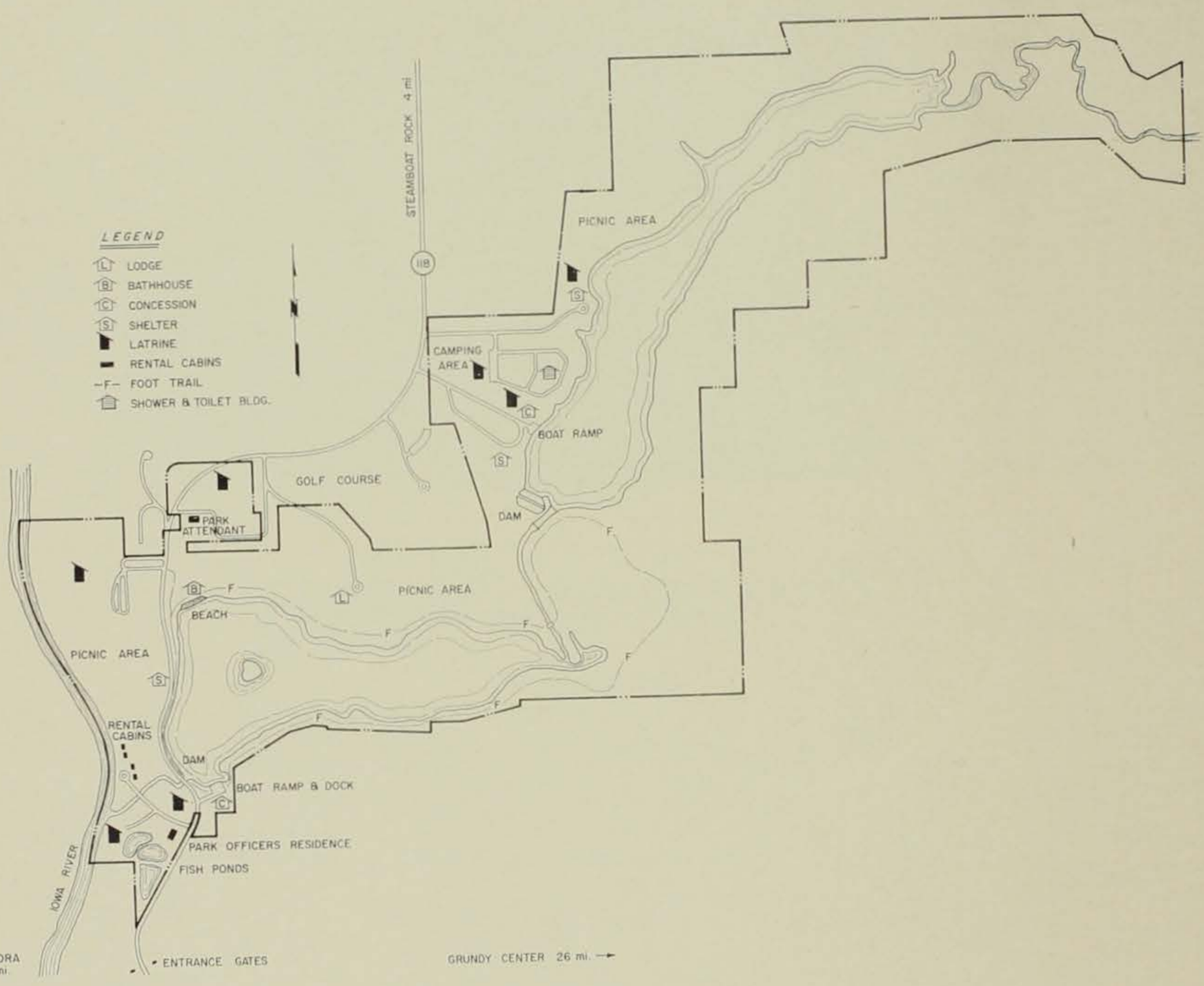
Summer storms can do more than dampen spirits. Boaters should get off the lake when weather threatens. Campers and picnickers should stay out from under the false protection of trees. Trees invite lightning.

Around the campground, just as around the home, numerous small accidents can happen. Chained pets, protective by nature, can dart out and bite the unsuspecting passer-by. Never pick up or attempt to pet wild animals. They aren't tame and may possibly be diseased.

Young boys should be supervised in the handling of knives and hatchets.

There are always cuts, bruises and scrapes, insect bites and poison ivy. Because campgrounds are somewhat islolated from medical attention, it's a good idea for someone in the camping family to have Red Cross first aid training. At least carry a first aid kit so that injury may be minimized. Camping is relatively very safe, and common sense and a little care may present that unusual but tragic moment.

Pine Lake Anniversary



The people of Eldora, Iowa, are "brewin up" a festival. The Chamber of Commerce there, with the assistance of local service clubs, is sponsoring a fiftieth year anniversary celebration on May 23 spotlighting one of Iowa's loveliest recreation areas . . . Pine Lake State Park.

The popular central Iowa park lies just one mile east of Eldora in the rolling, timbered Iowa River country. The refreshing scenery of this area truly rivals the prettiest in the state. Hilltop shelters overlook two sparkling blue lakes, contrasting vividly with heavily forested shorelines and a scenic island in the middle of lower pine lake.

Sixty-five acre lower pine is the original lake and offers rowboating or electric trolling motors up to one and a half horsepower, and a sandy supervised beach. Hikers enjoy a well-defined, rock trail around the lower lake where they cross stone bridges while observing some grand old pines, wildflowers, and birdlife.

Upper pine lake (101 acres) is large enough to allow motors up to six horsepower and offers the boater a nice stretch of water bordered by scenic wooded hills.

Both lakes offer respectable fishing for bluegills, crappies, largemouth bass, and bullheads. Hooking a northern pike is not uncommon and though most run under three pounds, some real line busters are present.

The park has an excellent campground just North of upper lake with 225 sites, 64 with electric outlets. A boat ramp and concession building (boat rental, bait refreshments) are located overlooking the lake.

The anniversary of this 50 year old park will be an enjoyable affair. Iowa Lieutenant Governor Roger Jepsen will highlight a short program followed by a number of activities. Free pontoon boat rides on upper lake, golf, a mapped tour of the scenic and recreational areas of the general vicinity, and an Indian artifacts display at Steamboat Rock (four miles North) are but a few of the activities aimed at pleasing all ages.

Wear your walking clothes and pack the family off to pine lake state park May 23. You should enjoy a very pleasant spring afternoon.

Monitoring Deer Movements

Sonny Satre

Three unusual white-tailed deer are oaming the countryside in the vicinity f Ledges State Park near Boone. These leer are quite distinguishable as each as bright yellow, red or blue plastic ear ags and an unusual collar around its eck. But what really is unique about hese animals is that Iowa Conservation ommission game biologist Lee Gladelter, is monitoring their movements by lectronic devices.

Yes, Iowa's deer have become part of he electronic age! Neatly packaged inide the collar is a compact, shock-esistant radio transmitter and miniaure antenna. The entire apparatus veighs only 26 ounces with an estimated attery life of 10 months. By using directional receivers, the game biologist can follow the movements of the transmitter-ized deer within approximately a one mile radius. The receivers have 12 channels which makes it possible to monitor a dozen deer as each animal is radio-tracked on separate sound frequencies.

In addition to the directional receivers, three portable antennas placed on 20-foot masts are situated in strategic locations around the study area. There is a compass and pointer at the base of the mast. To zero in on the "beeping" radio signal from a deer, personnel simply plug the antenna wire into the directional receiver and rotate the swivel antenna to the appropriate position. Two or three "fixes" are taken on each deer and its location plotted on a map using a process known as triangulation.

Basically the primary objective in radio-tracking is to study Iowa deer movements and home range. Through radio-tracking research, information on movements of deer in relation to weather, season of year, hunting pressure, cover requirements and food habits can be ascertained. Learning more about the secretive habits of these animals will provide valuable knowledge for managing Iowa's deer herd. There are many unanswered questions which can be solved through this monitoring system. For instance, do new deer move into an area where other deer have been harvestered by hunters? Where will deer in the area of the planned Saylorville Reservoir go when this vast area is flooded in 1973? How much crop damage is actually done by deer? These questions and other biological data may be determined.

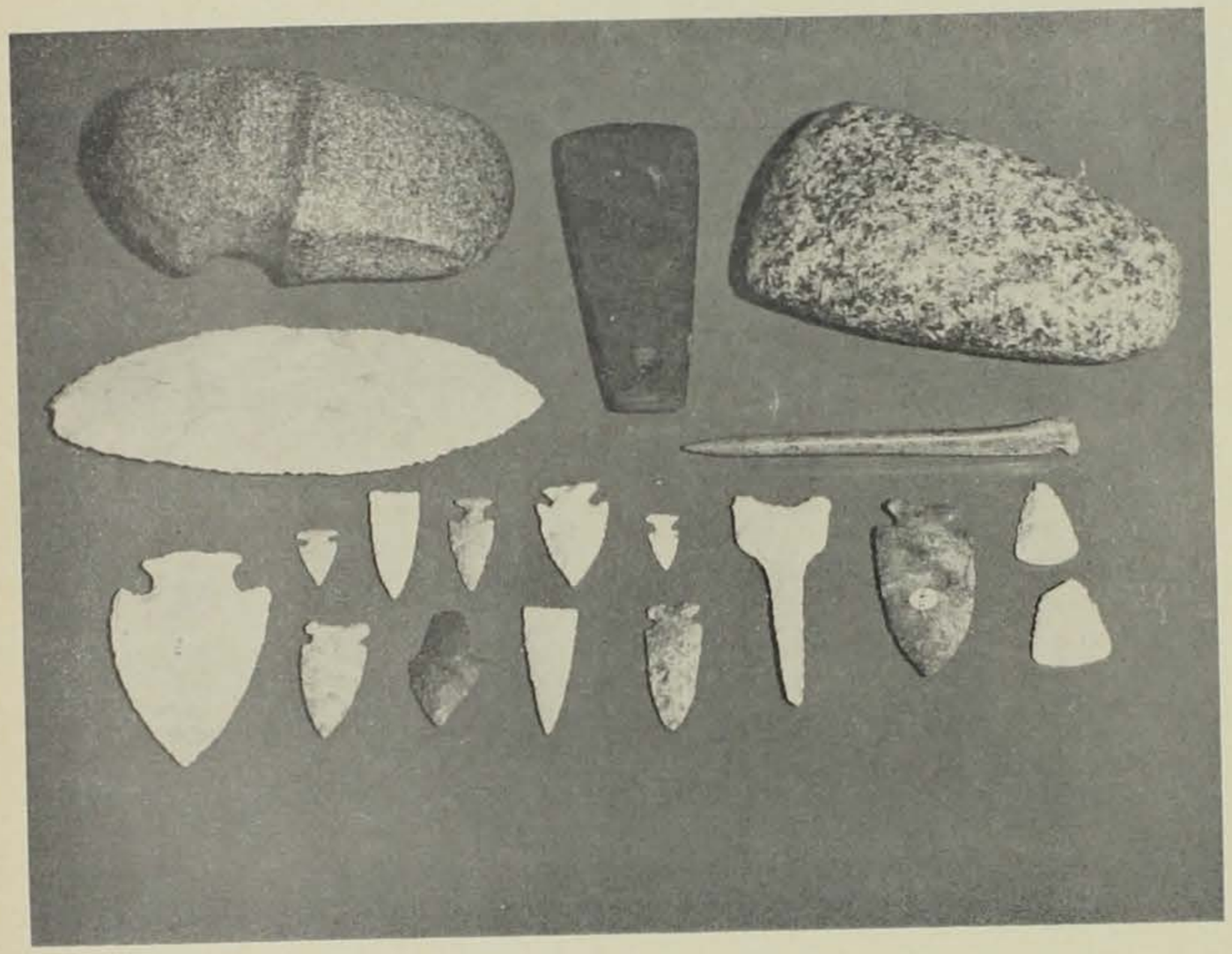
The radio-tracking project began in February of this year. A 10 x 4 x 4 foot wooden box trap with a door on each end is used to capture the deer. The trap is baited with ears of corn. When the deer enters the trap it trips a fine wire which automatically triggers the doors shut.

The next step is to place the transmitter-collar around the deer's neck. In order to accomplish this feat, the deer is released from the box trap into an awaiting net where Commission wildlife personnel bulldog the critter to the turf. The collar is properly fitted into place and the deer is released on its "beeping" journey.

Three deer—all young does—have been electronically equipped. This particular project is slated to last approximately three years and of course many more deer will be monitored. If a hunter or an automobile collision should happen to kill one of these deer, the local Fish and Game Conservation Officer should be notified.

Rendevous with th

By Paul D. Kline, Ecologist



After the doldrums of Winter practically all Iowans are "ready for spring", to use a common expression. The reawakening of life, an uplift of spirits, the pleasure of outdoor activity, all contribute to our anticipation of Spring. whether it means raking the yard, planting a garden, fishing, bird watching, camping, or whatever; "doing our thing" outdoors is the principal attraction of Spring.

Spring is an especially significant time to one group of Iowans, the Indian relic collectors. For this is the season when the fields are plowed, and the rains fall, exposing traces of prehistoric people for all to see—or at least for those who pursue this fascinating hobby. Objects of chert and stone, and occasionally of bone and shell, may be found at such times, if you know where to look.

Aside from desire and good eyesight there is probably nothing more important to an artifact hunter than knowledge of where to look. Probably artifacts occur on every square mile in Iowa; but in most places so sparsely as to make remote the probability of finding them at any given time. Artifacts are usually most abundant around camp sites which can be recognized by waste flint chips and "camp rocks". The latter are usually small glacial rocks which often are broken into fragments. The Indians used these stones with fire in various cooking processes. For instance, if they wished to heat soup they would heat the stones in the fire, then drop them into the container of soup. This was a very efficient method of heating liquid foods. These stones, exposed to fire by Indians, often appear "rotten" and are easily broken into fragments during the normal routine of land cultivation.

Usually these "camp rocks" appear to the keen observer to be out of place. Naturally so! The Indians carried them there. At times glacial deposits will be confused with "camp rocks." But the experienced artifact hunter can tell the difference, usually by the fragmentary condition of many "camp rocks."

Chips of flint occur on almost all camp sites. These are the pieces removed in the manufacture of flint tools. In Iowa most of the so-called flint is really chert; although jasper, agate, chalcedony, and quartzite were sometimes used. All are impure forms of silican dioxide, the same material that forms window glass.

Other materials sometimes found on

the Past

campsites are pottery fragments, clam shells, bone refuse, and small hematite fragments. The latter were most often ground into powder, mixed with grease and used as a dull red paint. Evidence of abrasion appears on most lumps of hematite found on Indian camp sites. Pottery does not occur on all camp sites. It probably was not used by North American Indians prior to 1,000 B.C.—most is later. Since Iowa has been inhabited by various pre-historic groups for at least 10,000 years the sites occupied prior to 1,000 B.C., and many after that date do not have pottery. Professional archeologists regard pottery fragments as more diagnostic of various cultures than any other type of artifact.

Some groups of Indians used clams as food; hence, the shells. One particular culture, the "Oneota" used clam shell in tempering pottery. Sometimes personal ornaments were manufactured from shell. Bone refuse on surface sites is rare. Most of it has decayed through the years into nothing recognizable. This holds true with wood, leather, feathers, and other perishable materials, also. The artifacts we now find are made of non-perishable materials, mostly stone. But in fact, they represent only a fraction of the material culture of pre-historic groups. However, bone tools, particularly awls used in sewing, sometimes do survive the attrition of time. Fragmentary animal bones which do occur may be of deer, bison, or of smaller animals. Teeth, being more resistant to decay, occur more frequently than do bones.

Indians usually camped where they had an abundance of wood and ready access to water. Therefore, it follows that most sites are located on the terraces, "benches", or second bottoms of streams, or on hills or ridges near streams, or, in northern Iowa, lakes. These are the places to look for sites. On stream terraces the sites occur most frequently on the very edge facing the stream. On hills or ridges they occur most often on the highest spot or on the "point" facing the water. Exceptions are frequent. At one time, a few thousand years ago, the water table was much higher in Iowa. Numerous springs, now absent, occurred then. Indians camped near these springs. This is one reason sites sometimes occur in unexpected locations.

Professional archeologists are very critical of amateurs who dig for their artifacts. They are justified in feeling this way. Most of the archeological remains in Iowa have been destroyed by cultivation, development, erosion triggered by man, and amateurish digging. Relatively little of value to professional archeology remains. Digging into these remaining undisturbed sites is usually unproductive of artifacts and it results in destruction of remaining evidence of prehistoric cultures so valuable to the professional. In most instances, even competent archeologists excavate only a portion of any given site because they wish to leave the remainder for future generations who will have more refined techniques of research and interpretation.

The most productive areas to hunt are cultivated fields. Plowing brings heretofore buried camp refuse and artifacts to the surface. But rain is a necessity because it washes away the dirt and melts down the "clods" so that artifacts are visible. Search for campsites under these conditions. When one is found, hunt it thoroughly by walking slowly back and forth. In hunting corn rows for instance, it is advisable to walk up and down between the rows scanning three to five rows each trip. Turn over flints or rocks which are not immediately indentifiable as waste material. Most often the artifacts are not completely exposed. For every complete artifact found, a number of damaged ones will be found. Some were broken during Indian days; others have been broken during cultivation. save all broken pieces. Once in a while pieces can be fitted together to complete an artifact. Pottery fragments, particularly the rim shreds, should be saved also.

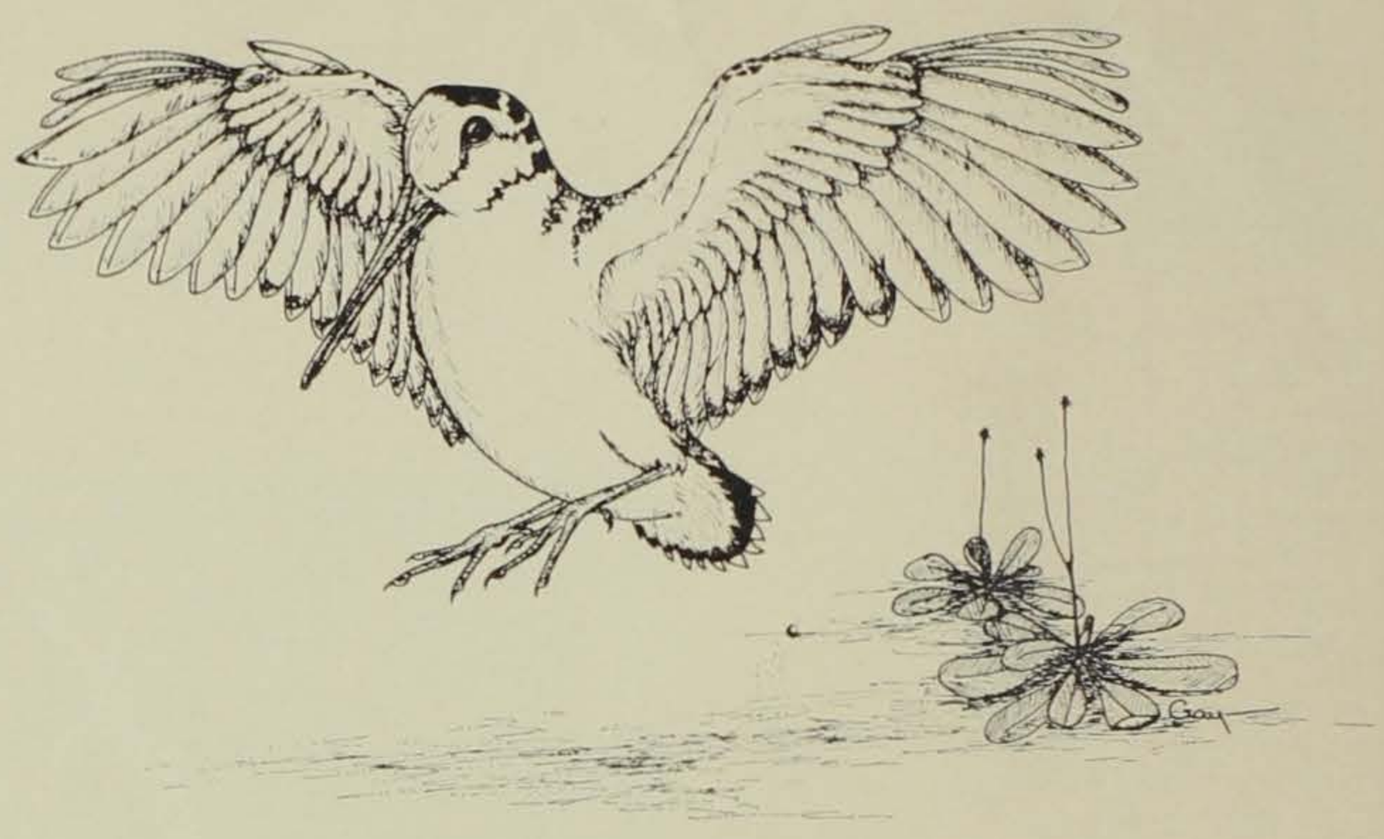
It is much more satisfying if the collector catalogues his collection. The simplest way to do this is to assign a different number to each camp site and record in India ink on all artifacts, fragmentary or otherwise, the number which corresponds to the site where the artifacts were fund. Then in the catalogue can be recorded the number opposite the location of the site. A simple notebook will serve adequately as a catalogue. People do not live forever, and collections pass on. If a collection is catalogued it will be much more valuable to individuals other than the finder.

Probably the most abundant relics found in Iowa are so-called arrowheads. These occur in a variety of forms. Some were actually used as tips for projectiles, whether they were arrows or darts. The bow and arrow was a relatively recent invention in North America. For thousands of years the atlatl or throwing stick was used to toss darts or spears. Most of the points found in Iowa probably date from this earlier period. On the average these dart points are larger than real arrowpoints. In many instances it is impossible to tell whether a spear or arrowpoint was used as such or merely as a knife, scraper, reamer, or something unknown to our society. Be that as it may, it is certainly more romantic to consider all of them as "arrowpoints."

Many collectors call the small points, "bird points." This, also, is romanticism. Plains Indians in modern times are known to have commonly hunted bison with arrows whose tips were very thin and less than an inch long. In general, the small points are relatively recent, particularly the "triangles," and were used with bows and arrows. The heavier, larger points are older. Many tribes known to white explorers used small triangles as arrowpoints.

The most common ground stone tool found in Iowa is the axe head. These are found with and without grooves for attaching a handle. Most axe heads are made of granite-like stones, diorite being a common material. Some were made of hematite, or, rarely, other materials. Axes were used much as the white man uses his axe, most often for wood cutting. Modern day experiments have demonstrated that they serve adequately for this purpose. Of course, they are not as effective as modern steel axes and would try the patience of most white men. However, we must remember that the Indians did not know anything better.

Indian artifacts can still be found in Iowa. Literally thousands are picked up annually. If you are not now a collector the thrill of finding your first arrowhead still awaits you. Once you find it you will be hooked. The thought of prehistoric men in Iowa facinates most of us. If only we knew the complete story behind each artifact! What did its owner look like? What was his role in life? Was a particular arrowhead actually used to bring down game? How did it happen to be where you found it? All of these questions and many others will remain unanswered. But as you hunt your imagination can run rampant.



A Song of Spring

by Robert W. Meyer

One of the more interesting travelers through Iowa is the American woodcock.

About the size of a bobwhite quail, it is built like a shorebird and resides in upland cover rather than in marshes and mud flats.

The bird is crepuscular and the species' peculiarities include a bill one-half as long as the bird's body, large shoebutton eyes located high and far to the rear of the skull and ears placed below and in front of the eyes. The female is nearly twice as large as the male. The bill is used in probing for earthworms. It has relatively short legs. These birds are quite secretive, resting and feeding in brushy woodlands during the day and migrating at night.

Although it is a prized game bird in the northeastern United States, southeastern Canada, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and points south, Iowa does not have an open season on woodcock at the present time.

The woodcock, on its way north to breeding grounds in Minnesota, is a common migrant through certain parts of Iowa as soon as the frost leaves the ground in the spring. However, relatively few birds remain here to breed. In the fall, woodcocks travel through Iowa on their way south to wintering areas located primarily in Louisiana.

The most interesting aspect of the woodcock's behavior provides Iowans with their best opportunity for observation. This fortunate combination is the result of a most absorbing courtship performance put on by the male at dawn and dusk each day during the spring. The beginning and quitting times are dependent on light intensity. The nightly performance begins about 20 minutes after sunset and lasts for approximately 40 minutes. Wind or temperatures below freezing discourage courtship activities.

The stage or singing ground is an opening in or near woods or brush with a mossy spot, a streak of sterile sand, a bare outcrop of rock, or a bare roadway to provide a dance floor. To witness the activities, one must be certain to arrive early and sit quietly lest the principle actor be frightened away.

For an arrival the male flies in low from some neighboring thicket, lights on the bare dance floor and begins a series of nasel "peents" spaced about five to ten seconds apart. These calls sound much like the summer call of a nighthawk or the sound produced by a person saying "peent" loudly while tightly holding his nose. On a quiet night they can be heard for two hundred yards or more.

Suddenly, the peenting ceases and the bird flutters skyward in a series of wide spirals, winging a musical twitter. Higher and higher he goes, the spirals steeper and smaller, the twittering louder and louder, until the male is barely visible against the sky. Abruptly this sound is replaced by a melodious chirping sometimes described as a soft liquid warble and then the bird tumbles rapidly toward the earth in a series of zigs and zags. At an altitude of about 50 to 75 feet, all sounds cease and he glides to the earth at a nearly vertical angle. A few feet from the ground he levels off and returns to his peenting ground, usually to the exact spot where the performance began, and there resumes his peenting. It is soon too dark to see the bird on the ground, but you can see his flights against the sky for the duration of the show.

Once a courting male is located it is easy to get quite close to his singing ground. While he is on the ground peenting, he is very alert and wary, however, once he launches into his courtship flight he is oblivious to all activities on the ground. As soon as he takes off, the observer should hurry toward the dance floor being certain to stand motionless by a bush or to lie flat on the ground before he finishes his flight and begins his descent. This maneuver executed during each subsequent flight allows the observer to get a front row seat to one of nature's most interesting dramas—the spring sky dance of a male woodcock.

Woodcock are most likely to be found along the Mississippi River and its major tributaries, but may be seen at less likely locations during the migration.

Editor's Note: Anyone witnessing a "sky dance" is invited to correspond with the author (Robert W. Meyer, R.R. 3, Muscatine, Iowa 52761) so that migration dates, number of males and their range in Iowa may be determined in more detail.

HOW TO REPORT A FISH KILL

By Sonny Satre

Water pollution is a growing concern in Iowa and elsewhere in the United States. Since 1960, undetermined millions of fish have died in this country as a result of pollution. Waters in Iowa which are the most susceptible to pollution are rivers and streams. In 1969 approximately 50,000 Iowa fish died due to pollution related sources. When the state's natural resources are affected the Iowa Conservation Commission becomes involved and should be notified immediately.

The Conservation Commission is vitally concerned about water pollution matters. However, the state agency which is charged with the responsibility of maintaining quality water in Iowa is the Iowa Water Pollution Control Commission. All sources and forms of water pollution should be reported to the Iowa Water Pollution Control Commission. The Conservation Commission is involved when fish and wildlife die as a direct result of pollution. All correspondence relating to water pollution should be addressed to the Iowa Water Pollution Control Commission, Robert Lucas Bldg., Des Moines, Iowa 50319.

Conservation Commission personnel do investigate fish kills. If the polluter is identified, the Conservation Commission can collect damages as the fish are property of the state.

Upon receiving a reported fish kill, the local fish and game conservation officer arrives at the scene as soon as possible. He conducts a field investigation to determine the seriousness of the fish kill. If it is quite serious and warrants further investigation, he notifies the Conservation Commission in Des Moines. The Des Moines office dispatches a fisheries biologist to the scene and contacts the Iowa Water Pollution Control Commission. Meanwhile, Conservation Commission personnel gather water samples and dead fish for analysis. An investigative pollution report form is made out and returned to the Des Moines office. If the source of pollution can be detected, the polluter has an excellent chance of being a defendant in a court case.

The sources of pollution in Iowa fall chiefly under four categories—agricultural, industrial, municipal operations and transportation accidents such as barge and rail mishaps.

A fish kill should be reported to the nearest Conservation Commission personnel in the area. They in return will notify the fish and game conservation officer, who is charged with the responsibility of making a preliminary investigation.

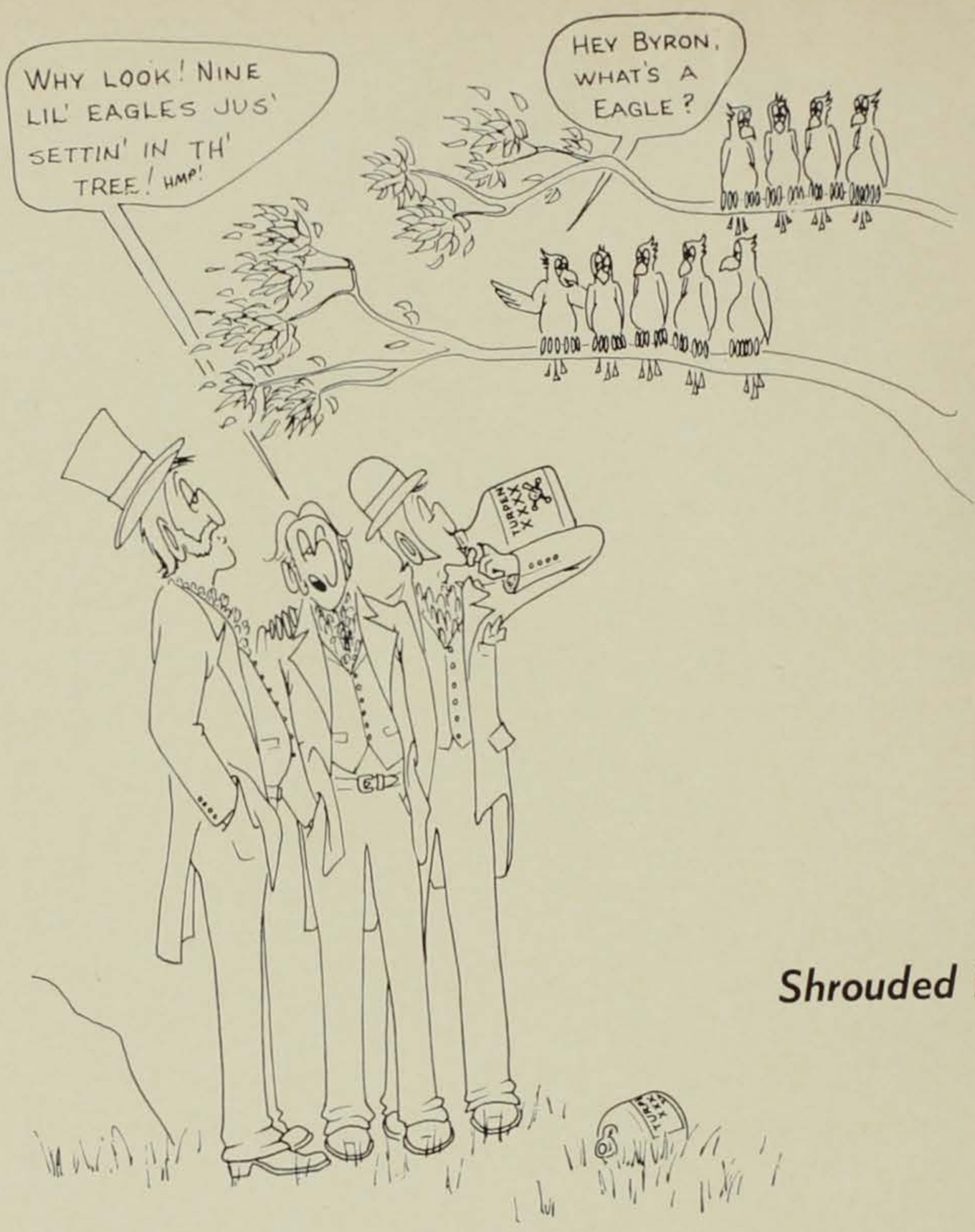
Adjoining this article is a complete fish and game law enforcement conservation officer directory. Contact the nearest personnel on the list in the event of a serious fish kill. Be a pollution detective!

FISH AND GAME LAW ENFORCEMENT

Kakac, Kenneth, Cons. Enforcement Supt., R. R. 1, Elkhart, Iowa 50073 .....515—281-5918
Olofson, Charles, Firearms Safety Officer, 517 E. Second, Ankeny, Iowa 50021 .....515—964-3964
Davis, Ben, Cons. Enforcement Supv., 509 W. 10th St., Spencer, Iowa 51301 .....712—262-1789
Emerson, L. Rex, Cons. Enforcement Supv., 1115 No. 4th St., Washington, Iowa 52353 ..319—653-2566
Hoilien, Gerald, Cons. Enforcement Supv., Marne, Iowa 51552 .....712—781-2307
Smith, Curtis, Cons. Enforcement Supv., 609 E. Fifth, Cresco, Iowa 52136 .....319—547-2688

* * *

Anderson, Maurice—Clinton Co., R. R. 1, Camanche, Iowa 52730 .....319—522-2559
Angell, Glen—Bremer, Chickasaw Co., 303 No. Locust, New Hampton, Iowa 50659 .....515—394-2037
Ashby, Michael—Dickinson Co., Box 233, Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360 .....712—338-2001
Ashby, Wesley—Fayette Co., Fayette, Iowa 52142 .....319—425-4001
Baldwin, Jim—Clay Co., 121 W. Tenth St., Spencer, Iowa 51301 .....712—262-3001
Basler, Bill—Kossuth Co., 302 E. College, Algona, Iowa 50511 .....515—295-3137
Becker, Jim—Buchanan, Delaware Co., 701 4th, S. W., Independence, Iowa 50644 .....319—334-2197
Beebe, Bill—Louisa Co., 128 Hickory Court, Columbus Junction, Iowa 52738 .....319—728-2594
Beecher, Wesley—Jackson Co., 200 S. 3rd, Bellevue, Iowa 52031 .....319—872-3391
Bruun, Jens—Crawford, Monona Co., 1317 Maple Drive, Onawa, Iowa 51040 .....712—423-1591
Carter, Harold—Clarke, Decatur Co., 830 So. Park, Osceola, Iowa 50213 .....515—342-3221
Downing, Berl—Howard, Winneshiek Co., 215 Riverview Drive, Decorah, Iowa 52101 ..319—382-5102
Draves, Ronald—Cedar, Jones Co., Box 71, Anamosa, Iowa 52205 .....319—462-4017
Edwards, Jack—Hancock, Wright Co., 714 First Ave., S. E., Clarion, Iowa 50525 .....515—532-3353
Ford, Larry—Cherokee, Plymouth, R. R. 4, LeMars, Iowa 51031 .....712—546-7511
Franta, Douglas—Lee Co., Box 64, Donnellson, Iowa 52625 .....319—835-5426
Handeland, Orlan—Linn Co., Central City, Iowa 52214 .....319—438-6319
Harris, Glenn—Warren, Marion Co., 602 So. 3rd, Indianola, Iowa 50125 .....515—961-3360
Harvey, Walt—Marshall, Grundy Co., 1715 So. 3rd, Marshalltown, Iowa 50158 .....515—753-8886
Hayes, Darrell—Tama, Benton Co., 606 E. State, Toledo, Iowa 52342 .....515—484-2967
Hein, Christie—Mills, Montgomery Co., 7 Elm St., Box 329, Glenwood, Iowa 51534 ....712—527-4188
Heinkel, Galen—Franklin, Butler Co., 1408 Central Ave., E., Hampton, Iowa 50441 ....515—456-2659
Holmes, Verl—Palo Alto Co., 103 Call Street, Emmetsburg, Iowa 50536 .....712—852-4969
Horton, John—Clayton Co., Box 181, Garnavillo, Iowa 52049 .....319—964-2119
Hoth, John—Woodbury Co., R. R. 1, Salix, Iowa 51052 .....712—946-4072
Huff, Lloyd—Polk Co., 2604 37th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50310 .....515—277-9283
Jennings, Ermin—Muscatine Co., 2852 Highland Ct., Muscatine, Iowa 52761 .....319—264-1012
Johnson, Dick—Harrison, Shelby Co., 563 No. Third, Missouri Valley, Iowa 51555 ....712—642-3578
Judas, Jim—Calhoun, Webster Co., R. R. 3, Ft. Dodge, Iowa 50501 .....515—546-6184
King, Duane—Pottawattamie Co., 1499 Indian Hill Rd., Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501 ....712—328-2786
Leigh, Ralph—Poweshiek, Iowa Co., Box 97, Marengo, Iowa 52301 .....319—642-5666
Lemke, Lester—Adams, Taylor Co., Rt. 2, Bedford, Iowa 50833 .....712—523-2278
Lemke, Louis—Cass, Adair Co., Box 233, Casey, Iowa 50048 .....515—746-2608
Macheak, Wilfrid—Worth, Winnebago Co., Forest City, Iowa 50436 .....515—582-3553
Magnussen, Paul—Buena Vista Co., 1401 N. Lake, Storm Lake, Iowa 50588 .....712—732-1559
Meggers, Jack—Cerro Gordo Co., 20 So. York, Mason City, Iowa 50401 .....515—423-4873
Messinger, Steve—Jefferson, Washington Co., Box 208, Brighton, Iowa 52540 .....319—694-3650
Moats, Bob—Emmett Co., West 626 6th Ave. No., Estherville, Iowa 51334 .....712—362-2962
Nelson, Dennis—Dallas, Madison Co., Van Meter, Iowa 50261 .....515—996-2455
Newel, Gene—Sioux, O'Brien Co., 86 12th St. S. W., Sioux Center, Iowa 51250 .....712—722-3961
Oden, Robert—Allamakee Co., Northgate Addition, Waukon, Iowa 52172 .....319—568-2724
Phillips, Dennis—Henry, Van Buren Co., Box 324, Douds, Iowa 52551 .....515—936-4375
Priebe, Don—Fremont, Page Co., 600 Church Street, Shenandoah, Iowa 51601 .....712—246-2796
Ray, Marlowe—Guthrie, Audubon Co., 509 No. 12th St., Guthrie Center, Iowa 50115 ..515—747-3002
Roemig, Alan—Mitchell, Floyd Co., 1020 Maple, Osage, Iowa 50461 .....515—732-3307
Rokenbrodt, Floyd—Pocahontas, Humboldt Co., 403 6th Ave., N., Humboldt, Iowa 50548.515—332-1236
Rowley, Keith—Dubuque Co., Box 306, Farley, Iowa 52046 .....319—874-3935
Runyan, Mike—Jasper, Marion Co., R. R. 2, Kellogg, Iowa 50135 .....515—236-7215
Shipley, Jim—Keokuk, Mahaska Co., 1307 So. 2nd Street, Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577 .....515—672-2710
Simonson, Donald B.—Des Moines Co., 118 Summer, West Burlington, Iowa 52655 .....319—754-5282
Simonson, Wendell—Johnson Co., Oxford, Iowa 52322 .....319—628-4443
Speer, Myron—Scott Co., 2629 Cedar, Davenport, Iowa 52804 .....319—391-4060
....., Buena Vista Co., Vacancy
Tellier, Frank—Lyon, Osceola Co., Box 139, Doon, Iowa 51235 .....712—2821
Tellier, George—Wapello, Davis Co., Rt. 1, Blakesburg, Iowa 52536 .....515—938-2854
Tilley, Archie—Ringgold, Union Co., 1101 Orchard Drive, Creston, Iowa 50801 .....515—782-5068
Uhlenhake, Mark—Monroe, Appanoose Co., R. R. 1, Moravia, Iowa 52571 .....515—724-3571
Wallace, Jim—Ida, Sac Co., Box 32, Lake View, Iowa 51450 .....712—657-8739
Wilson, Duane—Hardin, Hamilton Co., 1010 8th Ave., Eldora, Iowa 50627 .....515—858-2937
Wilson, Warren—Boone, Story Co., R. R. 1, Box 443, Boone, Iowa 50036 .....515—432-8311
Wiltamuth, John—Lucas, Wayne Co., Box 158, Humeston, Iowa 50123 .....515—877-4321
Zmolek, Delbert—Carroll, Greene Co., 405 No. West, Jefferson, Iowa 50129 .....515—386-4234
Mullen, Bob—Black Hawk Co., Box H, Gilbertville, Iowa 50634 .....319—296-1482



Shrouded in Legend

Nine Ea

"What's in a name?" Well, quite a lot when one looks into the history of Nine Eagles State Park.

One of Iowa's most scenic parks, its name is shrouded in legend even today. Located near the Missouri border in Decatur County, Nine Eagles is about 5½ miles southeast of Davis City. But, it almost ended up in Missouri—or at least the man who once owned the land thought so. But, that is just part of the history.

The 1,137-acre park attracts many visitors, both from Iowa and other states. It's easy to understand why. The wooded hills and sparkling 57-acre lake make it a gem in Iowa's necklace of state parks. It offers a variety of outdoor pleasures, including fishing, camping, picnicking, hiking, swimming and bird watching.

Largemouth bass are the most sought after fish, but the lake also has catfish, bluegills and crappies. Because it's an artificial lake and less than 100 acres, only row boats and outboard electric motors are permitted. Boats may be rented from a concessionaire who also has fishing tackle and bait available.

The dam impounding the water is about 240 feet wide at the base, 40 feet high and 950 feet long.

There is a large sandy beach. Docks and boat ramps are provided east of the beach. There are several picnic areas, including two near the lake. They have tables, shade trees and fireplaces.

No reservations are needed for camping, but campers must secure a permit from the park office upon arrival. Camping fees are: $2.50 and $3.00 per night, per unit with a two-week limit. A camping unit is a shelter used by one to six persons and may include a tent, trailer, motor home or station wagon. Any persons over the basic unit of six will be charged 25c per person per night. Water, sanitary facilities, showers, flush toilets and a sewage dumping station are available.

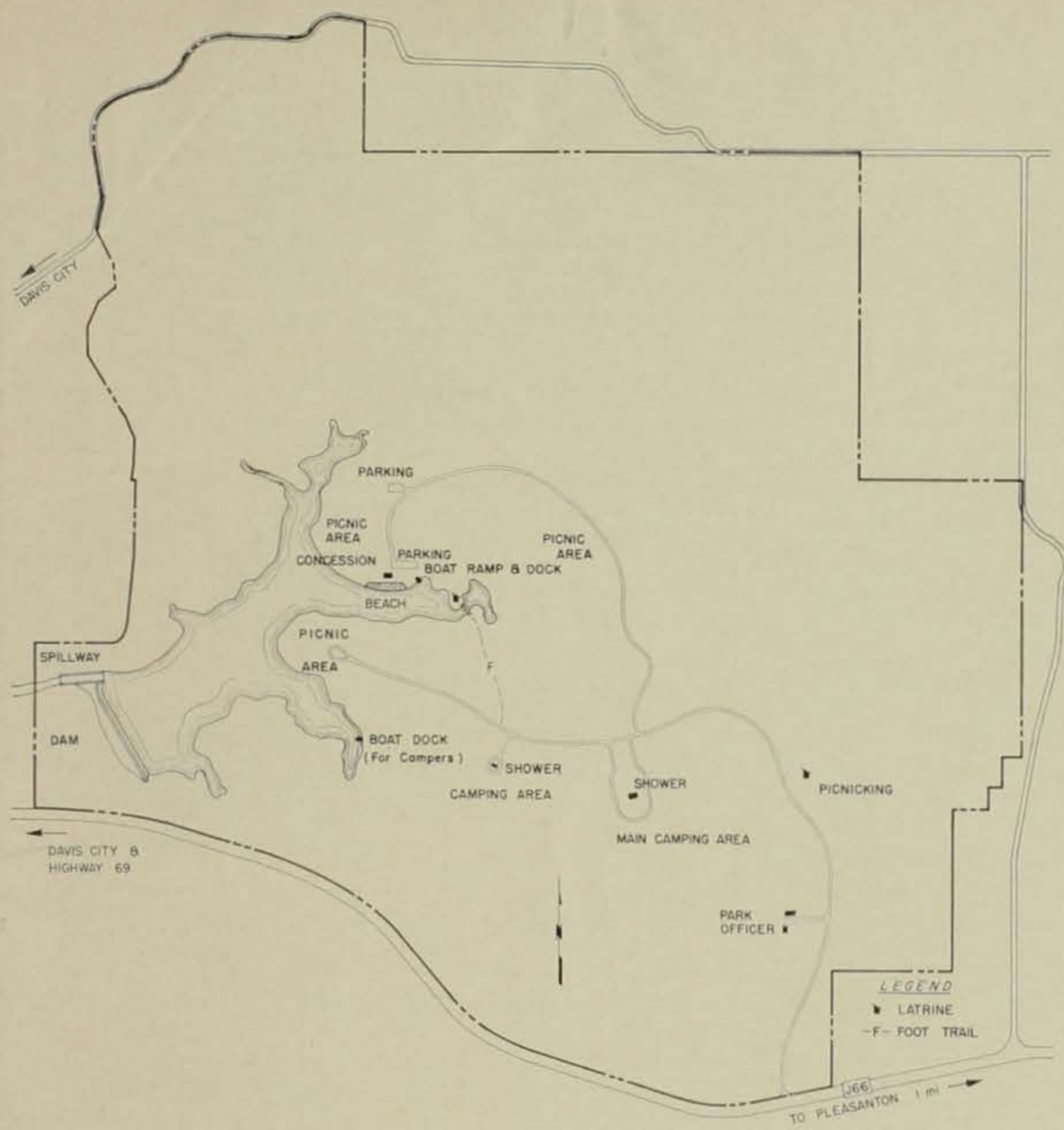
Most of the park is woodland with oaks lining the hillside and lake shore. The hills explode into bursts of color in the fall—browns, gold, reds and greens. The spectacular colors against the blue sky reflect on the sparkling water. The watershed is mainly timber making Nine Eagles one of the clearest artificial lakes in the state.

Flora of every kind native to the area flourishes and provides cover for birds and other wildlife. Deer can often be seen in the woodland.

Now let's roll back the pages of history to see how it got its intriguing name.

Forty acres in the southwest corner of what was eventually to be the park was part of the "Old Allen Scott Farm." It was one of the oldest settled farms in Decatur County and the state. Scott came to Decatur County while Iowa was still a territory and inhabited by a considerable number of Indians. Scott bought a large chunk of land in what he thought was Missouri. Actually, it was in a disputed strip claimed by both Iowa and Missouri at the time. When the boundary question was settled, he found himself a citizen of Iowa and all his land was in this state.

If nothing else, Scott was an energetic pioneer. He built a hewed double log house, set out an orchard, constructed a one-room log store and not far from Sand Creek he erected a shelter for a horse mill. In addition he apparently did an active business trading with Indians. A hospitable man, he kept open house



Eagles State Park

by David Evans

and entertained many travelers, especially during the days of the California gold rush. The many comings and goings of strangers apparently aroused suspicions among his neighbors. They could not figure out why so many people were spending so much time there. It is not known if they were friends staying for a purpose or merely loafers imposing upon his hospitality to secure free board and lodging. No doubt it just reflected a panorama of pioneer life. Many Americans were on the move in those exciting days.

An early report on Nine Eagles states: 'Besides no little authentic history, so much of a traditional and legendary nature has become woven around the farm and Scott's name it is believed one could state with considerable assurance that not another farm in southwest Iowa has been vested with as much tradition of romantic interest as this old place."

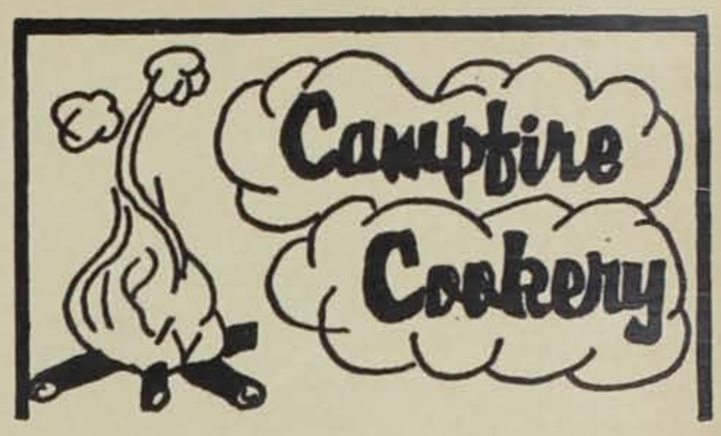
Scott built his one-room log store on the first 40 acres and it remained a part of the original farm sold by him. It was on this 40 acres that he established the first post office in Decatur County.

The generally accepted version of how the post office and eventually the park got their names follows:

"Soon after notice was received of the postoffice having been granted, three commissioners were appointed to meet and give it a name. Meeting at Scott's home—or store—they went off of the hillside to select a name. But try as they would, they could think of no name suitable. Their task was growing wearisome when one of the three happened to have his attention attracted to a large tree not far distant. In this tree he was sitting a number of eagles. On counting them he found there were nine. Seized by a sudden inspiration, he said, 'Why not call the new postoffice Nine Eagles?' The other two, glad to get the business over, agreed promptly and emphatically, Nine Eagles as good as any; and thus the first postoffice in Decatur County received its name.

Actual dedication of Nine Eagles State Park and Lake was held June 22, 1952.

Nine Eagles, rich in history, legend, scenic beauty and opportunities for outdoor recreation, is a state park well worth visiting.



by Dick Ranney

While traveling in the United States, let it be known Iowa is home and someone will come up with the time worn expression, "That's where the tall corn grows." There have been times when people didn't like to mention their Iowa cornfield background when talking with "sophisticated" people of the world. How things have changed, people who use to poke fun at the Iowa countryside would like to exchange the eye irritating, chest congesting city, with its smog, fog, hustle and bustle for a breath of fresh air. What some people would give to smell apple blossoms in the spring or the clean fresh smell of lilac in bloom. Why do simple things like the sight of spring's first robin, the sound of north bound geese, or the smell of new mown hay bring us pleasure? Is it bacause we are not sophisticated? How many people would love to stand on a quiet gentle hill top and watch a sunrise so beautiful it defies description?

The Indians called Iowa "The Beautiful Land," and some people say the Indians were not sophisticates; however, the Indians did recognize the beauty and richness of this great country. The Indians did not cement, destroy nor rape the land. Mankind has managed to do most of it under the pretence of progress and growth.

Iowa is fortunate to still be agricultural in background. Iowa does have some problems but they can be corrected before it is to late. We can be proud of our corn, our farms, our cities and of our honest, happy people. We may not set the mod styles of the world. We may be square and we may be all of the corny things we have been called in the past. But alas, how times have changed . . . the people doing the calling would like to be the called. Iowa is corn and most everything in our state is corny, even our bread and we are proud of it too.

To make Iowa bread that's corny beat two eggs, add two cups of buttermilk, one teaspoon of soda, two cups of yellow corn meal (not the fine ground) and one teaspoon of salt. Beat only until smooth, stir in one half cup of diced crisp bacon or ham. Pour into a greased 9" square baking pan. Bake at 450° for about 20 minutes. Serve with ham hocks and beans with a little honey butter on the side. Stand back, you might have sophisticated company for lunch.

Violets

Of all our spring wildflowers, the best known and loved are the violets — the Johnny Jump-Up of the nursery rhyme—symbol of shyness and modesty, and the state flower of Illinois, Wisconsin, New Jersey and Rhode Island.

There are several hundred species, varieties and natural hybrids. Most of these occur in northern climates, but they are also found in South America, Africa and Australia. In the tropics, some become shrubs or even small trees.

The grow in woodlands, meadows, marshes, prairies and mountains. Purple, blue, yellow and white are the most common colors, but some have two or more colors in each flower.

Typically, the flowers peep from a dense mass of foliage, but there are two main groups. In one, each leaf and each flower stalk rises individually from a rootstock or from underground runners. In the other, there are leafy stems with flowers arising from the crotches of the alternate leaves.

The violet has five petals arranged in a special way to give the flower its distinctive shape. There is a broad upper pair, a narrower lateral pair, and a broad lower petal—the largest which extends backward to form a sac or spur containing the nectar. This lower petal serves as a landing place for the bees and butterflies which thrust their tongues through a little door, guarded by the five stamens and the pistil, to get at the nectar. Different kinds of violets are cross-pollinated so readily by insects that they hybridize and are difficult to identify.

However, these showy flowers do not regularly bear seed. Violets are remarkable in that they also produce, later and near the base of the plant, very small flowers without petals. These do not open, are self-pollinated, and each is followed by a three-armed pod. As these ripen, they split and shoot out their tiny brown seeds—a fact which causes the countryfolk in England to believe that "violets breed fleas."

The Birdfoot Violet found on prairies, dry fields and hillsides is the most striking of the species. The large showy petals are lilac-purple with conspicuous orange stamens in the center. The leaves are deeply cut into narrow segments resembling the toes of a bird.

The Arrow-leaved Violet, with intensely blue flowers, the Palmata, and Lance-leaved Violet, also have leaves distinctly different from the heart-shaped, finely-toothed leaves of most native kinds.

Most violets have little or no fragrance, although the Canada Violet is sweet-scented; and the Sweet-scented English Violet, with either blue or white flowers, has escaped from cultivation and thrives untended in many localities.

The African Violet, which comes in several colors, cannot survive our winter outdoors, and thus has become a popular house-plant with many homemakers who enjoy a touch of spring year around.

The Egyptians used violets as pot-herbs. In France and Italy the shoots are put in salads. American Indians used them to thicken soup. In pioneer days the candied flowers were choice sweets because of their color and delicate flavor. Perhaps that fact sparkled the childhood lovers-rhyme:

"Roses are red, violets blue;
Sugar's sweet and so are you."