

FRIENDS OF GREAT SALT LAKE

P.O. Box 2655, Salt Lake City, Utah 84110
Volume 4 Number 2

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The mission of Friends of Great Salt Lake is to preserve and protect the Great Salt Lake ecosystem and to increase public awareness and appreciation of the Lake through education, research, and advocacy.

Calendar

Jan 8 Thu	Board Meeting 7 pm
Jan 27 Tue	General Meeting:- 7 pm Sugarhouse Garden Center Jim Carter - Comprehensive Plan for Great Salt Lake
Jan 28 Wed	Deadline for February Flier
Feb 5 Thu	Board Meeting 7 pm
Feb 21 Sat	2 nd Great Salt Lake Issues Forum
Feb	No General Meeting
Feb 25 Wed	Deadline for March Flier
Mar 5 Thu	Board Meeting 7 pm
Mar 16 Mon	Deadline for Spring Newsletter
Mar 24 Tue	General Meeting - 7 pm Sugarhouse Garden Center

NOTE: General Meetings are held at the Sugarhouse Garden Center, Located in Sugarhouse Park next to Highland High School. Board meetings are held at the Salt Lake County complex on 2100 S. State St., Room S2019 (South Bldg.) All members are encouraged and welcome to attend.

Cover: "Salt Marsh" by Denise Brown

Denise Brown

"My recent work was inspired by sailing alone in my small boat on the Great Salt Lake. I experience such peace and tranquillity I feel I have entered a dream. Removed from the noise and chaos of everyday life, I can hear nature's silence. The pieces of the scene present themselves one at a time, like slow frames of a moving picture. Each sound and motion is new, a surprise that holds my attention, then slowly slips away to become part of the whole.

These dreamlike moments, experienced when we observe the silence of nature and are fully present and aware, are the moments I want to convey in my watercolors. I feel my senses full with the beauty around me and it is then I want to turn to you and share that one moment I feel so strongly – the curve of a sail, the sky in the water, a carpet of leaves.

I enjoy the design process and work to simplify shapes and patterns into stylized or abstracted images. I look for interesting patterns and shapes in the ordinary. Working primarily from memory and sketches I use photographs only to remind me of the emotional impact of a place. The use of controlled, smooth washes achieves the dream-like quality I want to convey. I do not try to paint a representational image as seen by the eye, but an emotional image as seen by all the senses. Through my painting I strive to see, appreciate, communicate and share with you the beauty around us."

You can view other works by Denise Brown at Q Street Fine Arts, Salt Lake City or contact the artist at 295-5911.



President's Message

I am delighted to be the next president of Friends. I accepted this honor — and challenge — because it is clear to me how important Friends is for Great Salt Lake. The kinds of activities and programs we provide are necessary to help develop an appreciation of the uniqueness of the Lake's ecosystem and the life it supports. I shall be following in the footsteps of Joel Peterson and Kathlyn Collins, who have provided a clear path in achieving our mission.

As we begin 1998, we have a number of significant events to look forward to that will continue to draw attention to the Lake. On January 27th, we will welcome Jim Carter, Director of the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining. Taking a temporary leave as Division director, Jim has been asked to head a comprehensive planning effort on the Great Salt Lake for the Department of Natural Resources. Friends is participating in this process. At our meeting, Jim will present the project objectives and outline the process involved. Please join us.

The Second Great Salt Lake Issues Forum scheduled on Saturday, February 21st, will bring together a broad sweep of the community to focus on specific issues that involve the Lake. Ella Sorensen and John P. George, co-authors of *The Seductive Beauty of Great Salt Lake*, will share their thoughts and images at a luncheon presentation. For me, the first forum (held in 1996), provided a fascinating introduction to the subtleties of the issues involved with the Lake. I look forward to this one.

Lucky us to have Bruce Thompson as our Education Director. Bruce has been working diligently on creating *The Lake Affect*..... which was premiered in November for Great Salt Lake Audubon. Our goal is to get the word out to at least 50 venues within the 5 counties surrounding Great Salt Lake. (Quick, without looking them up, can you name all of them?*) Through this aggressive educational outreach, we are achieving the awareness-building that is important to nurture an appreciation of the Lake. Thanks to Bruce and his volunteers for their great efforts.

1998 will also hold the decision on the Legacy West Davis Highway proposal. Conflicts over the proposed alignments have created delays in the original timeline for the project. I'm pleased about this because it gives everyone more time to respond. Write your letters, please, call your legislator, please, call the Governor, please. Let them know how you feel. It is extremely important that each and every one of us consider the overall impacts this road will have. In my opinion, this road should never happen.

By now, all of you should have received your invitation to renew your membership with Friends. Many of you have returned your renewals, and for that I thank you. Your dedication and continuing generosity to Friends are much appreciated. Some of you also included notes about your particular areas of interest. What impressed me was the variety of those interests: avian resources, ecology, hiking, rock art, sailing, wetland, habitat, and ecosystem protection, the Lake's pristine beauty, and, my favorite "keeping it free from housing developments and highways." Together we can do it all! Happy New Year.

Lynn de Freitas

* The five counties surrounding the Lake: Tooele, Box Elder, Salt Lake, Davis, and Weber.



2nd Great Salt Lake Issues Forum

Friends of Great Salt Lake (FOGSL) will host the Second Great Salt Lake Issues Forum on Saturday, February 21, 1998 from 9:00 am to 5:30 pm at the Quality Inn Center 154 W. 600 S in Salt Lake City. The Issues Forum is made possible through generous support from the following companies/organizations:

**** *The Patagonia Outlet* ** *The Utah Wetlands Foundation* ** *The Nature Conservancy* **
**** *Parsons, Brinckerhoff, Quade & Douglas, Inc.* ** *Wasatch Touring* ** *Ventana Genetics, Inc.*****

Kirkham's Outdoor Products, Foothill Oriental Rugs, Chameleon Artwear, Denise Brown, Salt Island Adventures, Wild Bird Center, Great Salt Lake Yacht Club.

The Forum will bring together members of the environmental, business, and academic communities, resource agency personnel, and concerned citizens for presentations and discussions of varying view points on the following issues:

Brine Shrimp Harvesting

Howard Newman, Inve Aquaculture

Doyle Stephens, United States Geological Survey

Gary Belovsky, Utah State University, Department of Fisheries & Wildlife

Joel Flory, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Great Salt Lake Project

Need For, Impact From, and Alternatives to the Western Transportation Corridor

Byron Parker, Utah Department of Transportation

Michael Schwinn, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Roger Borgnicht, Future Moves Coalition

Emissions by MagCorp on the Lake's West Side

Dianne Nielson, Utah Division of Environmental Quality

Scott Endicott, Citizens Against Chlorine Contamination

Comprehensive Planning for the Future of Great Salt Lake

Ted Stewart, Utah Department of Natural Resources

Robert Adler, University of Utah College of Law

Low-impact Visitor Access and Education at Great Salt Lake

Jayne Belnap, United States Geological Survey

Tim Smith, Antelope Island State Park

Ted Wilson, Salt Lake City Futures Commission

As policy is being developed in regard to these issues, it is important that the public have access to the latest information. In addition to providing a venue for that exchange of information, FOGSL's Forum will enable the public to express opinions and provide meaningful input to affect public policy.

Keynote lunch time speakers will be author *Ella Sorensen* and photographer *John P. George*, who have recently collaborated on the new book from Gibbs Smith Publishers entitled *Seductive Beauty of Great Salt Lake - Images of a Lake Unknown.*



Pre-registration cost (up to February 17, 1998) is \$20 for FOGSL members and \$25 for non-members. After February 17, registration goes up to \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members. Cost includes refreshments and lunch. Send your registration to: Great Salt Lake Issues Forum, P.O. Box 2655, Salt Lake City, UT 84110-2655. Make checks payable to Friends of Great Salt Lake. Questions? Call conference coordinator Lindsey Oswald at 363-3488.

Volunteers Needed to Help With the Issues Forum

The success of the Issues Forum depends upon the participation of the FOGSL membership. Volunteers are needed to help set up the room, work at the registration table, sell T-shirts, and prepare registration packets. PLEASE call Lindsey Oswald at 363-3488 to volunteer and help make this event a success.

James W. Carter, speaker for the January 27th general meeting

Jim Carter was appointed Director of the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, a division of the Utah Department of Natural Resources, in April, 1993. The Division administers environmental regulatory programs for the development of oil, gas, coal and non-coal minerals.

Before coming to the Division, Jim was City Attorney for Park City, Utah, where he worked primarily on water, planning and zoning, and growth management issues. He has also practiced natural resources law, and served for seven years as a member, and for two years as chair, of the Utah Board of Oil, Gas and Mining. He has Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in geology and has worked as an exploration geologist, geology instructor and engineering geologist.

Jim has temporarily relinquished his duties as Division director to lead a comprehensive planning effort on the Great Salt Lake for the Department of Natural Resources. While the primary responsibility for management of the lake was assigned by the Utah legislature to the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands, all of the Department's seven divisions have resource management responsibilities affecting the lake. In order to coordinate the Department's management responsibilities and resolve outstanding lake management issues, DNR Executive Director Ted Stewart initiated the lake planning project.

Project objectives include reconciliation of the various DNR agency resource management responsibilities and resolution of resource conflicts in a manner which protects the basic identity of Great Salt Lake as ...a unique natural resource of the State, locally and world renowned as a wonder of nature, economically and esthetically productive through mineral extraction, recreational activities and wildlife resources, and intrinsically valuable as a natural body of saline water." (From House Bill 23, 1975 session of the Utah Legislature).

At the FOGSL meeting, Jim will discuss the project objectives and opportunities for participation in the project by interested citizens, groups and companies.



Citizens Against Chlorine Contamination

by Howard Gross

Citizens Against Chlorine Contamination (CACC) was formed during the summer of 1996 by scientists, lawyers, and other concerned citizens to pressure the Utah Division of Air Quality (UDAQ) to more stringently regulate air emissions by the Magnesium Corporation of America (MagCorp). CACC is supported by Friends of Great Salt Lake, the Utah Chapter of the Sierra Club, West Desert HEAL, Great Salt Lake Audubon, and the Patagonia Outlet. Regular readers of this newsletter know that the MagCorp facility, located on the west side of Great Salt Lake in Rowley, is the source of more than 85% of all point source chlorine emissions in the United States. In 1995, MagCorp emitted nearly 30,000 tons of chlorine, or 60 million pounds, to the atmosphere. CACC is concerned about the health effects these and other MagCorp emissions have on the residents of northern Utah and on the Great Salt Lake ecosystem. Some of the activities CACC has been busy with during the last few months are described below.

UDAQ Moves Forward (?) With Plans to Test for Dioxins/Furans at MagCorp

All the ingredients for producing dioxins, including free chlorine, organic molecules, and a high temperature, occur together at the MagCorp facility. Thus, CACC is concerned about the potential production of dioxins at MagCorp. Dioxins are among the most toxic chemicals known to exist, and the law requires the report of their release to the environment. As a result of comments received during the summer of 1996, UDAQ agreed that "the burden of determining dioxin/furan production must be taken on by the State and/or MagCorp" (UDAQ document #DAQE-940-96, pp. 3-4, 9/25/96). Since MagCorp wasn't willing to share this burden, it was up to UDAQ to do the job. In a technical meeting called by UDAQ in June 1997 to address the methods to use to accomplish this testing, the consensus was that the best and cheapest place to test for dioxins was in the plant's "scrubber liquor" (the water used in the plant's pollution control equipment). However, on October 9, 1997, MagCorp balked and insisted that the air emissions from the CRB stack should be tested. CACC has longed opposed this approach because the CRB stack is the least likely place to find dioxins and the most difficult location to sample.

When CACC heard of MagCorp's resistance to testing the scrubber liquor, we contacted UDAQ to find out if they were going to stand firm. Several phone calls to UDAQ personnel revealed an uncertainty about how to resolve this impasse. CACC leaders were perplexed as to why UDAQ was uncertain about proceeding just because MagCorp balked. In a letter to UDAQ dated October 23, 1997, CACC stated that "UDAQ has a responsibility to act on the best technical information in carrying out its responsibility of protecting the health and welfare of the public and environment in Utah."

Determined to not let MagCorp successfully dictate how they should be regulated to UDAQ, CACC called the press and brought this impasse to the public's attention. In addition, several concerned citizens wrote letters to the State expressing their concern about MagCorp's effect on the environment. This strategy may have hastened UDAQ's decision-making process, because in response to CACC inquiries in late November, UDAQ had decided to stand firm on testing the scrubber liquor. As of the writing of this article (December 18--only five shopping days left 'til Christmas!), UDAQ plans on finalizing the test plan in January and conducting the testing by late February/early March 1998. CACC has once again asked to see the test plan before it is finalized to make sure it addresses our concerns. We are glad that UDAQ has shown resolve on this matter.

What did we learn from this latest fire drill? CACC maintains that while most people think of state agencies as regulators, frequently they act as mediators. How would UDAQ have responded to MagCorp's latest resistance if CACC was not around? The role of citizens' watchdog groups has been proven over and over throughout the history of this country. If the public wants clean air and water and a safe environment for our families and wildlife, we must ensure that our voices are heard.



Make Sure Your Voice Is Heard

If you share CACC's concerns about MagCorp's emissions, you can help. Please write to:

Dianne Nielson, Executive Director

Utah Department of Environmental Quality

168 North 1950 West

P.O. Box 144810

Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4810

Send a copy of your letter to

Governor Mike Leavitt, 210 Capitol Bldg., Salt Lake City, UT 84114.

Make the following points:

- (1) Request that the State implement a meaningful and credible dioxin testing plan of MagCorp's scrubber liquor now.
- (2) Express your general concern about MagCorp's high chlorine emissions. Request that the state require MagCorp to install a second chlorine reduction burner (CRB) so that when the first one breaks down, which it frequently does, the second one can take over.
- (3) Request that the State initiate talks between regulators, legislators, MagCorp, and environmentalists. Clean technology is available and MagCorp has started to use it, but only to increase production, not to replace dirty, older technology. The time has come for MagCorp to clean up its act.

Speak up about MagCorp to your State legislator and county commissioners, too. They should know, and care. If you have questions about CACC or any of these issues, please call Howard Gross (486-4565) or Scott Endicott (596-1325).



Old Road Grader at Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge (Jim Zinanti)



Dolphin Island

by Ken Cramer

It's so quiet you can hear the sun. Wedged into a narrow sliver of shade, beneath an ancient seafloor ledge, I realize that even the biting gnats have ceased their bloodthirsty humming. Nothing moves. The sun beats mercilessly on an aching white expanse of salt and mud stretching out before me, north to Promontory, and west to the Hogup mountains. With binoculars I can just make out the weathered and rusted red '76 Blazer I drove 1200 miles from Illinois just to be here. Two faithful friends who walked out with me yesterday, helping lug the traps and water across 3 miles of salt flats and mud, have left me here to ponder my fate and trap another night. With four gallons of water and 70 Sherman live traps in my backpack, I realize that virtually no one understands why I come here.

In 1986 I made my maiden voyage to Dolphin Island. Lake levels then at an all-time high, I began at the same point on the east slope of the Hogup mountains, only then I backed up a boat trailer into the water. Studying the effects of isolation on reproduction in small mammals, I was in search of deer mice, one of the most abundant and ubiquitous small mammals on the continent. I had never not caught deer mice in any of my excursions throughout the Bonneville basin, and expected the island to be crawling with them. Still, it would be interesting, I thought, to trap where the last biological survey was taken in 1938. Being the first mammalogist to trap there in nearly half a century made the trip seem more like a real naturalist's adventure. Also, like many ecologists before me, I was lured by the promise of islands as small, isolated systems, where perhaps one could get a handle on the complexity of forces running natural ecosystems.

The "desolate" island was indeed teeming with life, but the most common rodent in the west deserts was nowhere to be found. Instead I captured numerous little pocket mice, previously unrecorded on the island. Kangaroo rats were also abundant but only of one species, not the two recorded in the original survey. A subspecies described as unique to the island had apparently gone extinct. The shoreline crawled with brine flies and fat, sassy fence lizards sat gorging on them, not bothering to move but merely waiting for flies to wander within reach. Each square meter of shoreline must have had a dozen lizards sitting on the rocks lapping up flies.

Now it's nine years later, August 1995, and all I can catch on the island are deer mice and k-rats. The little pocket mice are gone. The deer mice, previously absent, now rule. I walked to the island rather than taking a boat. The only certainty in the field of ecology is repeated, "Things change." The old view of ecosystems as highly integrated, delicately balanced and stable, has crumbled in the face of the reality, and the necessity of change. I've made up stories to explain the changes, but the only real truth I know is all around me.

I watch two darkling beetles struggling comically in the sand, doing the old mating ritual as well as can be expected given their suit of armor. They enter my traps to eat the peanut butter and oats. Now that the sun has gone down to a tolerable level, I take another tour around the island. From the highest point, I startle a juvenile golden eagle near a nest where I suspect it was born this spring. The shoreline is littered with pellets, mostly full of k-rat bones, but I find one containing a rattlesnake tail. Coyote scat is everywhere, and kit fox tracks meander through the sand. The fence lizards are still here, but few and far between, their banquet of brine flies having long since disappeared. As the sun goes down, horned larks begin flitting from saltbush to saltbush. A pelican skeleton and the mummified carcass of a gull chick decorate the sand on the east shore.

Not many people appreciate deserts. They are seen as desolate, unpopulated, useless. Wastelands. When Fremont explored the Great Salt Lake he named the island which now bears his name "Disappointment Island" for its lack of trees which he thought he had seen from a distance. I have no idea how Dolphin Island got its name. Its shape on the horizon, shimmering in the desert heat, might suggest the porpoising of those popular aquatic mammals. Romantic names notwithstanding, "my" little island is not a popular vacation spot. A sudden itching reminds me of my stupidity and yet another reason to have avoided this trip. How could I have forgotten the gnats, even after nine years? I look down to find my long legs dotted with little red dining tables. No, I probably won't ever be fighting for parking space out here, but I will be back.



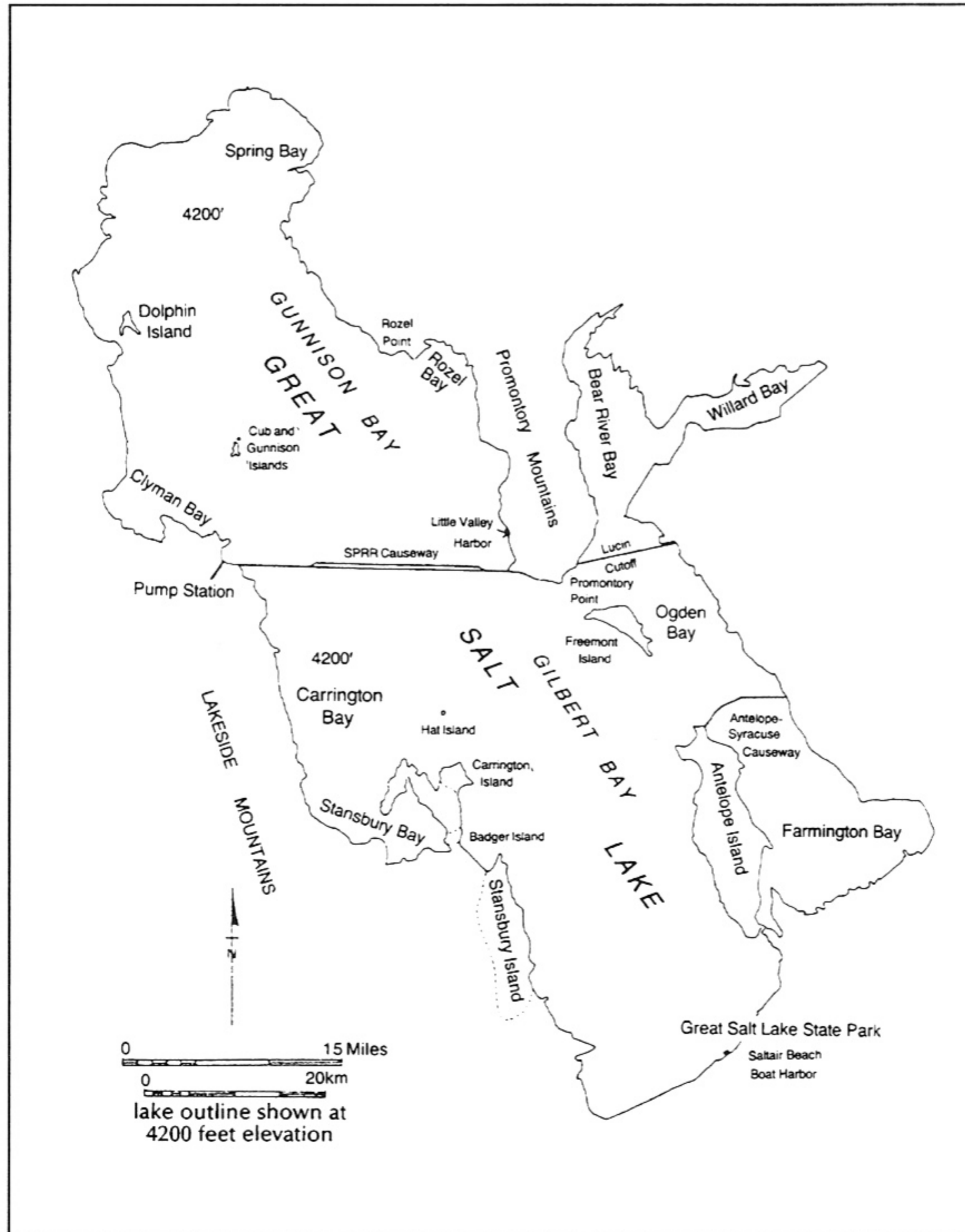
I'll be back because deserts remind me that beneath all of the dynamic diversity of life on this chaotic planet, there is one unshakable constant: simply the presence of life itself. It doesn't have to be here (take a look around the solar system). Yet, it is. In the most unforgiving environments, life is there. Brine flies, gulls, saltbush, lizards, mice, sage, hawks. Life just keeps showing up where you'd least expect it. With tenacity, life keeps facing entropy, and winning. You can't stop it -- although I can't imagine why anyone would want to.

Ken Cramer writes

Howdy!

I'm a member of FOGSL though I now live in Illinois. Joel Peterson and I took a trip to Fremont Island once. I completed my Ph.D. at Utah State and worked in the Bonneville basin. Attached is something I hope you'll find appropriate for the newsletter. It's a little story about a trip I took to Dolphin Island.

Thanks for taking a look



Great Salt Lake Map from Utah Geological and Mineral Survey



Brine Shrimp Harvest 1997

by Paul W. Birdsey, Jr. and W. Clay Perschon
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

The 1997 brine shrimp harvest season was the shortest on record, just less than four weeks. The season was terminated on October 27 in order to protect enough eggs to fully reseed the lake next year. The low numbers of eggs in the Great Salt Lake this year were not a result of overharvest in 1996. In fact, substantially more eggs were present in March of 1997 than in March 1996. However, changing environmental conditions within the lake apparently led to poor survival of larval and juvenile brine shrimp after hatching.

Sampling conducted by the U. S. Geological Survey under contract with the Division of Wildlife Resources identified several areas of concern for the brine shrimp population in 1997 compared with the previous two years of sampling. The areas of concern were the reduced number of female adults in the population, the lower percentage of females with eggs, the lower number of eggs per female, and the fewer number of free cysts in the water in September. All of these parameters were lower throughout 1997 compared to similar samples collected in 1995 and 1996.

The Division of Wildlife Resources incorporated data collected by the USGS in September 1995, 1996, and 1997 into a simple model to predict the level of available harvest. Estimating available harvest in the Great Salt Lake brine shrimp population is extremely difficult because the harvest season and the period of maximum cyst production overlap. We utilized data from 1995 and 1996 to estimate the amount of potential cyst production in October and November. A harvest quota of 4.5 million pounds of raw biomass was established by the DWR as a result of these efforts. Raw biomass represents all of the material that is removed from the lake including brine shrimp adults, cysts, brine fly cases, etc. This value is used as a measure of harvest because it can be readily collected in the field. Normally brine shrimp eggs comprise approximately 60% of the raw biomass. The 1997 harvest quota was approximately 1/3 of the record harvests experienced in 1995 and 1996, but was well above the lowest harvest ever reported of 298,000 pounds from 1985-86.

Preliminary modeling efforts by Utah State University indicates that a minimum of 500,000 pounds of cysts needs to be present in March in order to fully reseed the lake. Our criterion for terminating the harvest was that a minimum of 1.5 million pounds of cysts needed to be in the lake in March 1998. The difference between these two values resulted from our recognition that the USU model was constructed using data from 1995 and 1996, two very good years for shrimp production. We do not have information on population growth potential under less than optimum environmental conditions. The value of 1.5 million pounds is similar to the amount of cysts available in March 1996 and should be sufficient to reseed the lake even under adverse conditions. Under the ideal conditions of 1996, 1.5 million pounds of cysts produced a record harvest.

One area of uncertainty in the DWR management model is the overwinter mortality of cysts. Reported values in the literature range from 10% - 90% mortality. We decided to use a value of 50% for our model. This means that our desired population of cysts on December 1, 1997 was 3 million pounds. As of sampling in early November cyst levels were still below this level, however, some reproduction is possible in November. Even if no further reproduction is forthcoming in 1997, we believe that we have been conservative enough in our estimates to insure that enough cysts will be present in 1998 to fully reseed the lake, thereby insuring adequate shrimp numbers for human and avian users of the system.

There are many areas where future research is needed before we can fully understand the role of brine shrimp egg harvest in the ecology of the Great Salt Lake. Sampling by DWR and USGS personnel will continue throughout the winter.

Additional research is being conducted by Utah State University under contract with the DWR to identify factors controlling brine shrimp population dynamics and to construct a predictive model. Growth and survival at different temperatures and salinities have been investigated. Additional work in these areas will continue. Research has also been conducted on predation of brine shrimp by corixids (backswimmers). A preliminary model has been developed that shows promise as a management tool. The model has also identified areas where further research is necessary, which promotes efficient use of limited research funds.

The Division of Wildlife Resources appreciates the cooperation shown us this year by all of the harvest companies. In an age where resource managers and consumptive industries are adversaries in many instances worldwide, the support of the brine shrimp companies for resource protection is unique.



Friends of Great Salt Lake 1998

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Recycle Aluminum Cans.

Please consider donating aluminum cans to Friends. Can donations will be accepted at 1149 E. Browning Avenue Saturdays between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. All proceeds will go to the FOGSL general fund. Cans must be contained in plastic garbage bags. If you have cans to donate, but can't transport them, please call Margie Paul-Hus and arrangements will be made for a pick-up. If you don't recycle aluminum, please consider starting!! This will greatly benefit Friends. Volunteers are needed for accepting aluminum cans in your neighborhood and/or taking cans to the recycling center.

Questions, please call Margie Paul-Hus at 487-4383.

Submitting Material for Publication

1. **What To Submit:** original articles (historical, geological, geographical, biological, political, fiction, poetry, etc.) which pertain to Great Salt Lake or art work including sketches, photographs, etc.
2. **Submitting Material:** Mail or deliver to 2656 S. Chadwick St. SLC, UT 84106-3506. Or e-mail to jzinanti@wasatch.com or RedaHZ@wasatch.com
3. Please phone 484-5799 to confirm receipt of e-mail, or with any other questions, suggestions, comments, or ideas
4. **Deadlines:** The deadlines are Sept. 16 (Fall), Dec. 16 (Winter), Mar 16 (Spring), and June 16 (Summer).

Friends of Great Salt Lake wishes to thank Xmission.com for its generous donation of services to support the Friends of Great Salt Lake on the World Wide Web

<http://www.xmission.com/~fogsl>
Kevin Landis: webmaster



Board Meeting Summary

4 December 1997

Board Members Present: Doug Howard, Kathlyn Collins (Past President), Lynn de Freitas, Howard Gross (Treasurer), Margie Paul-Hus (V-P), Robin Hooten, Ann Dick, Joel Peterson (President), Rick Ford, and Michele Davis (Secretary)

Others Present: Kevin Landis - member, Bruce Thompson - Education Director, Lindsey Oswald - intern, Reda Herriott - Newsletter Editor.

Renewal for UDOT Highway Cleanup. Margie will take care of renewing the program. Margie is pleased with the success of the program, although she is concerned with the turnout at the cleanups. The board brainstormed for ideas on how to attract more participants.

Second Great Salt Lake Issues Forum. Howard reported that the budget for the program looks good. Contributions have come from the following organizations: Utah Wetlands, The Nature Conservancy, Wasatch Touring, Parsons Brinkerhoff, Ventana Genetics, Inc., Salt Island Adventures, and Patagonia. Lindsey has sent the information for the Issues Forum registration brochure to the printer.

Membership database update. Mark will assume the duties of maintaining the membership database. The Board thanked Ann for all of her hard work this past year in maintaining the database.

CACC. Howard handed out a flyer detailing CACC's goals, accomplishments, and requests in the hopes of stirring up some public support for the organization.

New recruit needed to maintain the public announcements of Friends meetings/activities. Lynn has been handling this task for the past year and with her new duties, will need someone who has a fax machine to take over for her. Reda volunteered.

Board Retreat. Lynn suggests the board begin to think about the outcomes they want from the January 10th

retreat. Ann Floor, of Random Projects, will be the facilitator.

Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Legacy West Davis Highway and I-15. The DEIS will be available sometime in January. If you want a copy, contact **Frank Uldrich HDR Engineering 151 E 5600 S Suite 300 SLC, UT 84107** or you can call 281-8892. Joel suggested a group of Friends go over the document and meet together to discuss the details.

Separation of President/Chair of Board roles. Lynn suggest that someone, other than herself, take over leading the meetings so she is free to participate in the discussions. Lynn will still prepare the agenda. Joel suggested that different people lead the meetings to mix it up a bit.

Utah Non-Profit Association (UNA). Friends is now a member of UNA.

Bruce's update. He has presented five times and over 200 people have seen the slide presentation. His volunteers have done an exceptional job at setting up presentations. He has also prepared comment cards to gauge the reception of the presentation.

January General Meeting. Jim Carter will be speaking at the next general meeting on 27 January. He is overseeing the Great Salt Lake Comprehensive Planning Project.

The next Board Meeting will be held on January 8.

"Under certain conditions, a place becomes part of us; we own it. We absorb it into our lives. It cannot be taken from us. It is ours, and without title or deed. We are associated with a certain spot of earth; we have our lives shaped by it; or if that be not the case, we stamp the place with our individuality." - Alfred Lambourne.

Alfred Lambourne, painter and poet, spent 14 months in 1895-6 living on Gunnison Island, Great Salt Lake. He also made numerous trips to Great Salt Lake islands during his lifetime. In 1908 he published *Our Inland Sea* including some of his paintings and the story of his homestead attempt on Gunnison Island to which the quote pertains.



Great Salt Lake Slide Program

A Progress Report On "*The Lake Affect: Living Together On The Shores of Something Great*"

Editors Notes: You might recall that Friends of Great Salt Lake has undertaken a unique educational project since spring of this year. The outcome is to be a live-narration slide program presented on an on-going basis to a broad spectrum of citizens throughout the Great Salt Lake Region.

Our Education Director, **Bruce Thompson** provides us a brief on his work on this project to date, and a preview of what's to come.

The title for this project, "*The Lake Affect: Living Together On The Shores Of Something Great*," was chosen to declare from the start that, whether we perceive it or not, the Great Salt Lake affects all of us. The title is a play on the common phrase, "the lake effect," which of course refers to ways by which that vast body of water enhances our local weather. But there is more at play than climate moderation. To "affect" is to change, modify, influence, or impress, and this Lake surely does all of that and more.

Title phrasing has been chosen to create a tone that emphasizes the wealth of interrelationships, interdependencies, and diversity among humans and all life, and between these living things and their Great Salt Lake environment.

On 28 October the draft presentation was a part of the general meeting. In early November the presentation was in final format. By mid-November, and with assistance from a few trained volunteers, we began targeting no fewer than fifty presentations of this slide program throughout the greater Salt Lake community, to enhance and inspire both knowledge about and care for our Great Salt Lake.

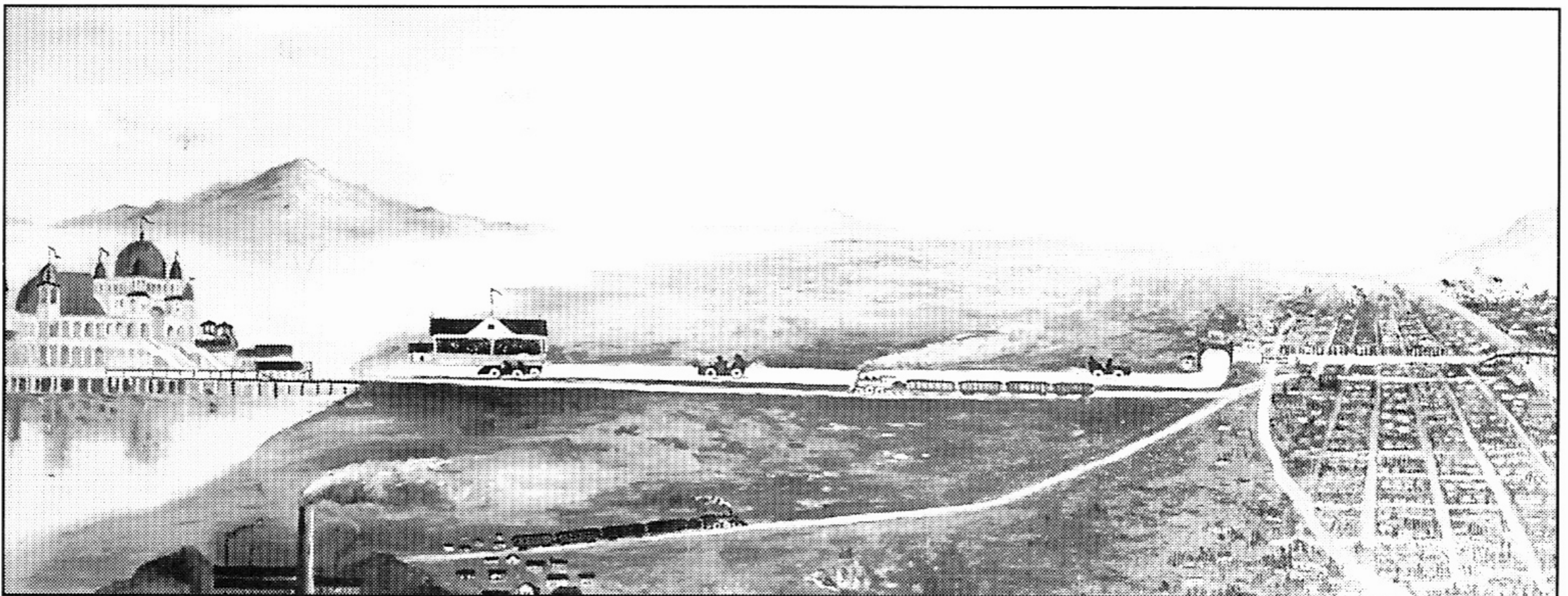
The program runs 60-90 minutes and consists of an orientation talk, 35-45 minutes of slides with live narration, and a period for questions, discussion, and wrap up. An audience feedback form will be used to gather public response to our effort.

If you believe that a group to which you belong or of which you are aware would be a possible venue for our program, please contact me at the address or phone below.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

We welcome volunteer assistance from members who might help schedule programs and/or assist in presentations between January 1998 and December 1998.

Bruce Thompson can be reached at 467-3240 weekdays between 8 am and 5 pm, at e-mail ecotracs@aol.com, or at the Friends of Great Salt Lake Address.



1908 Proposed Speedway SLC to Great Salt Lake *Is this an early vision of I-80?*
(courtesy Utah State Historical Society)



Volunteers Needed!

1998 Great Salt Lake Waterbird Survey

Project Objective: To determine the species, number, and habitat use of waterbirds using the Great Salt Lake and associated wetlands

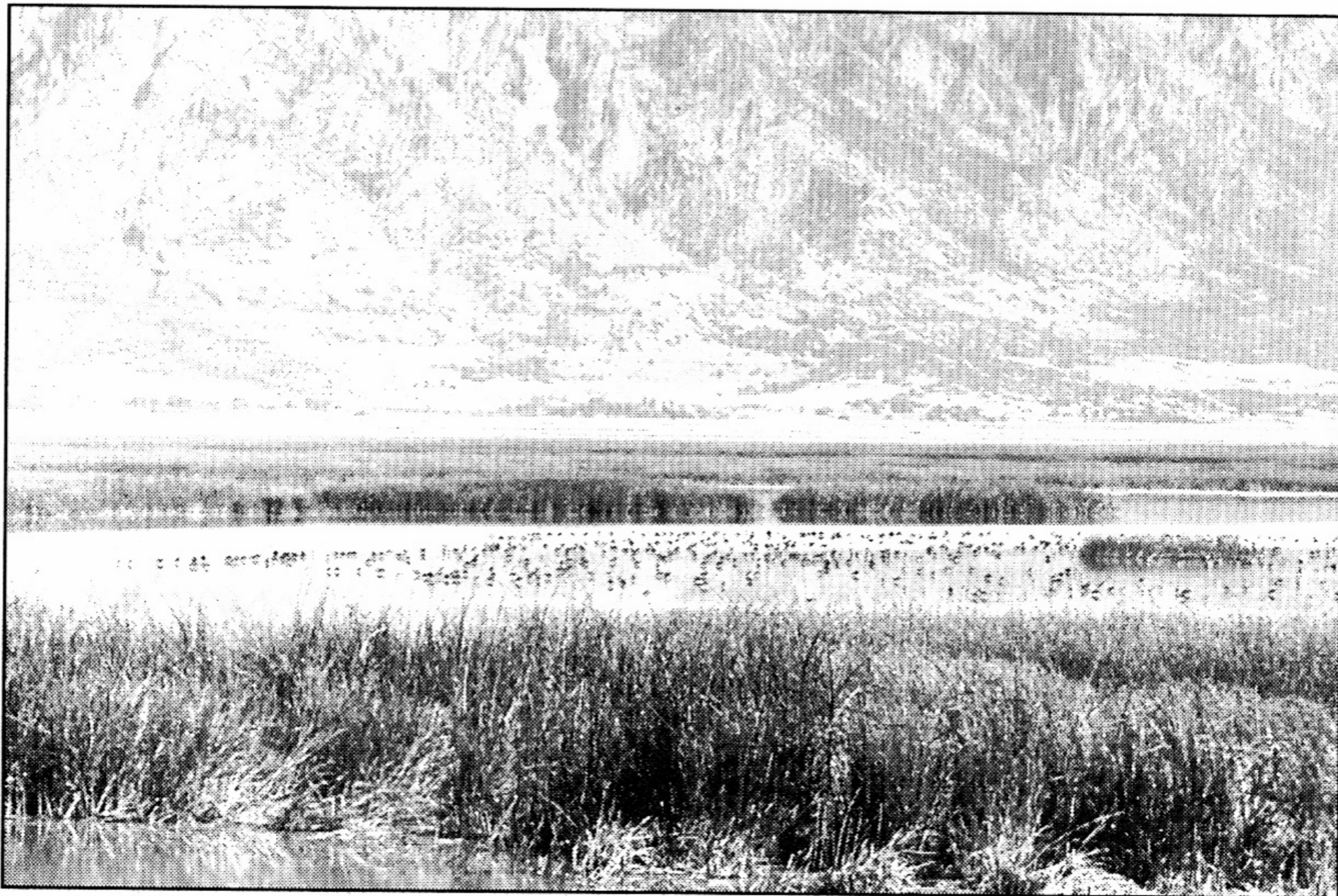
Survey Period: April - September 1998

Time Frame: Generally one morning every 10 days

If ever in the world you wanted to learn the intimacies of the Great Salt Lake and make a contribution to the Lake's conservation and avian data, then here is your chance!

Grab a friend and call Don Paul, Wildlife Biologist, for more information

(801) 721-9780



At Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge (Jim Zinanti)



Friends of Friends

Great Basin Bird Observatory



The Great Basin Bird Observatory, based in Reno, Nevada, was founded in January 1997. Its mission is the conservation of birds and their habitats in the Great Basin. GBBO will accomplish this through partnerships, applied research, and public education. Pyramid Lake, north of Reno, is the second largest inland saline system in the Great Basin. Despite large scale water diversions which have dropped the water level over 80 feet, Pyramid Lake remains an important breeding area. It is home to one of the largest colonies of white pelicans in the West.

GBBO's key project is the research and development of a Nevada Breeding Bird Atlas. The goal is to complete basic research for the atlas in 4 years. Last summer, 120 volunteer researchers visited sites all over Nevada to gather data for the atlas. Their most exciting find was the continued presence of whip-poor-wills in the Sheep Mountains. These birds have not been recorded there in 35 years.

For more information about GBBO,
contact Graham Chisholm at
Great Basin Bird Observatory
440 Hill Street, Suite D
Reno, Nevada 89501.
1-702-348-2644
or gchisholm@aol.com.

Book Review

Seductive Beauty of Great Salt Lake Ella Sorensen and John P. George

Gibbs Smith, Publisher. \$21.95

It's 1960, I'm ten years old and we're driving from Denver to Seattle in a red Chevrolet Impala. My parents sit up front and we three boys are in the back, doing little boy things; fighting, singing, dozing, being moody, throwing up. Mostly we're staring out of the window at the West, new and mysterious to us. We all keep diaries. For August 24th, mine says "We saw some of the sights of Salt Lake City and then, in a grey cold wind, we swam in the great salt lake. I got salt up my ears, nose, and mouth."

Today I marvel not only at the general brilliance of my punctuation but also at the fact that I remember the day of the swim quite well. It was at a tourist trap west of Highway 89, probably at a spot now threatened by the Governor's Lunacy Highway. What I remember best of that splashing about in the cold is the vastness of the space to the west and the sudden height of the mountains to the east.

I thought of that cold swim again when I saw *Seductive Beauty of Great Salt Lake*, Ella Sorensen and John George's marvelous new book. In fact the very first picture pulled me right back to 1960. If you look at page 5 you'll see what I

mean. That's part of the power of this book—whatever mood you've experienced at the lake is echoed here in George's photos and Sorensen's short essays. Some of the essays have appeared in the Salt Lake Tribune, but there's a certain authority in a book that cannot come from a daily newspaper and the essays are stronger for it, especially when bracketed by George's photographs.

It isn't necessary to remind readers of this Friends newsletter about all those people who haven't given any particular thought to the unbelievable ecological vitality of the Great Salt Lake. In that regard, *Seductive Beauty of Great Salt Lake* is an immensely useful book. I don't mean that it will tell you how deep the Lake is, or the Latin name for pickleweed, or where the bison came from. I mean that this book is a quiet and unashamed advocate for the Lake. This combination of essays and pictures may well do more than all the impassioned arguments and statistics can to help intelligently preserve the Great Salt Lake. Pass along a copy of this quiet champion of the Lake.

Reviewed by Patrick de Freitas





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Yes! I want to join FRIENDS of Great Salt Lake.

Here are my dues in the amount of (check one):

- \$10 Student Membership "Brine Fly"
- \$10 Senior Membership "White Pelican"
- \$20 Regular Membership "Pickleweed"
- \$30 Family Membership "Wilson's Phalarope"

Contributing Memberships:

- \$31-50 "Brine Shrimp"
- \$51-100 "Eared Grebe"
- \$101-250 "Pronghorn Antelope"
- \$251-499 "Bald Eagle"
- \$500 Sustaining "Ecosystem Protector"

Student - be at least half time.

Senior - must be 62 years or older.

Sustaining is any corporation, institute, organization, or individual interested in financially supporting activities of **FRIENDS OF GREAT SALT LAKE**

(v4n2)

In addition to my dues, I would like to make a tax-deductible contribution in the amount of

- \$10
- \$25
- \$50
- \$100
- \$250
- other _____

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