



THE ICF

BUGLE

Volume 26, Number 4

November 2000

World Center for the Study and Preservation of Cranes

Stretching from the Atlantic Coast to the valleys of the River Nile, the savannas and floodplains of the Sahel are among the most beautiful and threatened lands of Africa. This region was once an oasis for nomadic herders and wildlife, but in recent decades it has been ravaged by the southward march of the Saharan desert and ever-increasing competition for its limited resources. As the ongoing struggle for fuel, food, and water leaves fewer and fewer areas undisturbed, the distinction between home and habitat is blurred. Wildlife species must either adapt to live among people, or vanish.

Perhaps no species embodies the conservation challenges of the Sahel better than the Black Crowned Crane. Requiring a mosaic of wet and dry habitats in seasonally flooded lowlands, they are denizens of the great floodplain systems of the Sahel, including the Senegal Valley, the inland delta of the Niger River in Mali, the Waza River at Lake Chad in Cameroon, and the extensive Sudd wetlands in southern Sudan. As the national bird of Nigeria, Black Crowned Cranes figure widely in the cultural lore and traditions of West and Central Africa peoples.

In the past thirty years, however, Black Crowned Cranes have been decreasing. In parts of West Africa the birds have declined so dramatically that they are threatened with extinction. In Nigeria, the population plummeted from more than 15,000 birds in the early 1970s to no more than a few, non-breeding birds today. Southern Sudan, long considered the stronghold for the population, is mired in a prolonged civil war with untold impacts on wetlands and wildlife.

In 1992, colleagues in Nigeria organized an international conference on Black Crowned Cranes to raise awareness about the plight of their national bird. The following year conservationists met again for the African Crane and Wetland Workshop in Botswana to share ideas on how best



Saving the Jewel of the Sahel

By Rich Beilfuss, Africa Program Director

Conservation efforts for Black Crowned Cranes bring people together from diverse countries in the Sahel, including those which encompass floodplains of the Senegal River in Senegal and Mauritania. Photo by Damian Debski.

to help Black Crowned Cranes. Subsequent proposals have called for new crane breeding centers, protected areas, and education centers.

But to secure a future for the Black Crowned Crane, we must learn more about their overall status, distribution, and critical threats. Where should we target our efforts? How and with whom? Are they declining throughout their range, or have they shifted to more remote regions of the Sahel? Is habitat loss most threatening to the birds – perhaps the drying of wetlands due to drought, overgrazing, or the construction of large dams or drainage schemes? Or are the birds being directly persecuted through live trade, hunting, or egg collecting? How do local people view them—are they a symbol of good luck or just an agricultural pest? Will local communities support,

or better still, participate in efforts to save the birds?

This past year ICF joined with Wetlands International to launch a major regional program to answer these fundamental questions and develop a comprehensive conservation program for Black Crowned Cranes and their habitats. Emmanuel Williams, an enthusiastic waterbird ecologist from Sierra Leone, was hired as Program Coordinator and built a network of more than 100 colleagues across West, Central, and East Africa. Through this network, we completed the first-ever aerial

and ground survey across 20 African countries to determine the population size, distribution, and principal habitats of the species. Participants completed surveys on the specific threats to Black Crowned Cranes, with insights from rural villagers about local beliefs and experiences that may help or hinder conservation efforts. The results were compiled and an action plan drafted to circulate findings throughout the region. Follow-up surveys to target additional areas and refine this past year's counts are already underway.

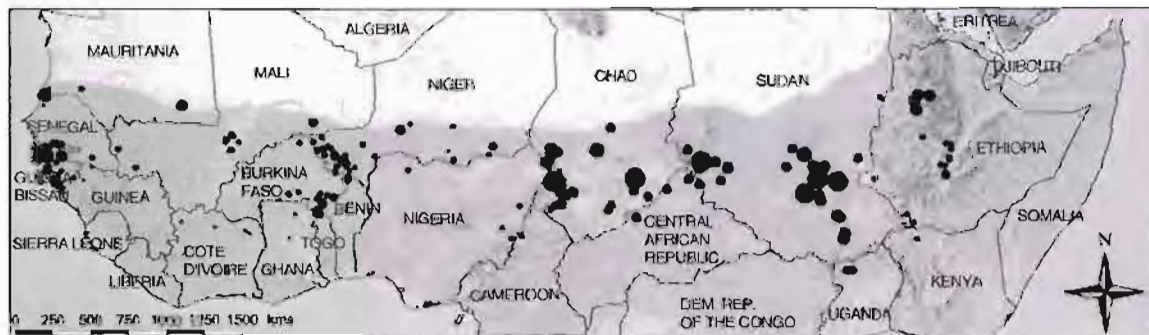
During the year, we received reports of new survey routes and findings. Tirba Ali Kodi and colleagues from the Wildlife Conservation Administration of Sudan searched the wetlands of the upper Sudd to record the first waterbird surveys in southern Sudan in nearly fifteen years. Encouraging numbers from Chad and northern Cameroon suggested that a viable, perhaps even increasing population of Black Crowned Cranes still occurs in parts of Central Africa. Coordinated surveys across Senegal and Mauritania helped us better understand the population of the transnational Senegal River Delta. Based on the crane numbers alone, we identified over twenty sites that qualify as Wetlands of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention.

Survey results also confirmed many of our worst fears. The birds appear to

be in a long steady decline in most of their range, and all told perhaps only 40,000 remain. Sadly, Black Crowned Cranes are no longer known by young people in several places where they were once common. The population is fragmented in a series of small and isolated sub-populations across their for-

awareness about the impact of the crane trade, and assess alternative income opportunities for crane traders. We will learn how best to work with local communities and resource managers, whose activities in the end will determine the fate of the cranes.

A second factor is the impact of



Map compiled by Ian May
Date: August 1, 2000
Projection: Lambert
Azzimuthal
©UNEP-WCMC

mer range. Counts from Sudan are also much lower than those recorded in the past. Few of the key crane sites are protected, and many suffer from inadequate law enforcement.

In August, we joined together at the 10th Pan-African Ornithological Congress in Uganda to share the results of the first year surveys and develop pilot conservation projects for the future. ICF and Wetlands International supported survey coordinators from each African country to attend the congress and actively participate in creating an action plan for the recovery of the Black Crowned Crane. We discussed the species population numbers, weighed the various threats, and reached consensus on two critical factors affecting their long-term survival.

One factor is the live crane trade. Several countries reported the extensive capture and sale of Black Crowned Cranes, as one of the leading causes of the species' decline. In Mali, for example, the sale of cranes is reportedly widespread and very lucrative. This January, we will launch an investigation on the live crane trade in Mali, and its pathways through West Africa and beyond. This project will raise public

agricultural development schemes on Black Crowned Crane breeding and movements. In these areas, such as the Senegal River Valley, the cranes face human disturbance, loss of wetland nest sites and roost trees as well as unintentional poisoning from agricultural chemicals. Emmanuel will spearhead the research in Senegal for his M.Sc. degree, and help us develop conservation programs for these most threatened wetland systems. Ultimately, the Black Crowned Crane may serve as a flagship for integrated river basin management in the Sahel.

Seeing the congress conference room packed with spirited participants from across Africa, Europe, and North America, I felt a renewed sense of hope for the Black Crowned Crane. Thanks to support from the Disney Wildlife Conservation Fund, Sam Evans, the Chester Zoo, and the many cooperating government and non-government organizations in Africa, we have joined in a diverse partnership dedicated to making a difference for this jewel of the Sahel. 🦩

Michigan's Whooping Cranes

By George Archibald

Mark Batkie is a dairy farmer in the thumb of Michigan. In spring some low areas of his field are covered with water and provide habitat for migrating waterfowl. Mark and his parents have always cherished nature.

In mid-May of this year, Mark's father was taken home from a hospice. Three days later, two enormous white birds landed on a forty acre flooded field just west of Mark's house. He didn't know what they were. A quick search of the Internet identified them as Whooping Cranes.

Mark did not want anyone to disturb the rare birds. He reasoned that soon they would depart for their breeding grounds in northern Canada. Mark's Dad was thrilled the rare cranes came to their farm. In early June, the cranes disappeared and shortly after, Mr. Edwin Batkie passed away.

The cranes had not migrated to Canada; they had just relocated to a wetland within a complex created by the Michigan Peat Company just a few miles from the Batkie's farm. For many years, peat had been extracted from a large bog and large, rectangular compounds remained. Shallow water collected in these compounds creating a home for a pair of Whooping Cranes.

Vito Palazzolo supervises the harvest at Michigan Peat. Soon after the cranes left the Batkie's farm, Vito saw them in a marsh within the Michigan Peat complex. He also did not know what they were. He and his wife Sheila searched the Internet and made the surprising identification. Sheila notified the Whooping Crane Conservation Association and soon was in contact with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service employees, Tom Stehn and Wally Jobman. Like Mark, the Palazzolos did not want the cranes disturbed and their presence remained a secret. Michigan Peat also took special measures to ensure the birds' safety.

Vito observed several important things. The cranes danced and called. And as far as he knew, they never flew for about six weeks after landing in the marsh. Perhaps they were interested in breeding and had established a defended territory. One of the birds molted its flight feathers as is common in captive Whooping Cranes after breeding attempts.



It was a long and unexpected "jump" from Florida to Michigan for this crane that had no prior migration experience. Photo by Al Perry

Later in July before the cranes started to fly, Michigan Peat put out a press release about the birds. Now the world knew that the missing pair of Florida Whooping Cranes had made Sandusky, Michigan their new summer home.

In 1995, these cranes were reared in captivity at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Maryland. Early in 1996 they were released on the Kissimmee Prairie in south central Florida. In 1999, they developed a pair bond and moved to a wetland area near Inverness in northwest Florida. For two years it has been unusually dry in Florida. In April of 2000, when the wetlands near Inverness dried out, the cranes disappeared.

The naive pair migrated 750 miles northwest. During the period of May 9-14, they were observed on a flooded field near Sandoval, in south central Illinois. Then they moved about 600 miles northeast, in one day, to Mark Batkie's field.

On August 17, seventy people showed up at the Sandusky Public Library to hear a presentation on Whooping Cranes. Mark Batkie and the Palazzolos were there and for the first time they pieced their stories together.

A week later, Terry Kohler flew me to Sandusky. Vito and I examined the wetland where the cranes had spent much of June and July. To our delight, we discovered two large crane nesting platforms.

There were no eggshell fragments on the nests. Young cranes often build platforms the first year they establish a breeding territory. The pair appeared to have shown some early breeding behavior. Hurray!

Through much of the summer a lone Sandhill Crane accompanied the Whooping Cranes. In June they tried to drive this bird from their territory. It seemed that when they abandoned their efforts to breed, they accepted the Sandhill. One pair of Sandhills breeds within the Michigan Peat complex about a mile from the area where the Whooping Cranes settled. Perhaps this lone crane is their yearling offspring.

Breeding Sandhills in Michigan migrate to spend the winter in Florida. Other Whooping Cranes in the non-migratory population in Florida, although they widely disperse throughout the peninsula, sometimes return to the area of their release site. Undoubtedly, with or without the help of Sandhills, the Michigan Whoopers will migrate back to the wetlands near Inverness, Florida. If water conditions are excellent on that wetland, will they try to breed in Florida in late winter or will they return in the spring to "their" wetland in Michigan?

Let us hope that this magnificent pair of birds survive the dangers of the autumn migration and is successful in producing more of their kind - be it in the Southeast or the Midwest. Their fans are waiting. 🦢

Like many ICFers, I was sold on the cranes during my first visit to the property. That was in 1978, and my tour was led by ICF co-founders Ron Sauey and George Archibald. George was more youthful then, but filled with the same enthusiasm for his work that he exhibits today.

I remember the special feeling as I met one crane species after another on the Sauey farm. Suddenly I was a world traveler awed by what I witnessed, each crane species unique and yet not too different from the others, each bird with its own behavior and story, and its special treatment by ICF to encourage breeding. In those days, the more eggs and chicks, the better.

I recall Ron saying how wonderfully the cranes bring people together. His example came from the Korean DMZ, and some of George's early work there. For a time the two Korean armies, each from its side of the no-man's land, fed the cranes during the coldest winter weather, inspired in part by this young man from Baraboo.

Ron and George's message then was that the cranes reach across cultures and conflict to unite people in a common cause. And the cranes need everyone. Each of us can make a difference for these magnificent creatures that evoke a distant time and untainted world. Without our working together, these living echoes of the past will be lost. Now, 22 years later, these messages remain at the heart of ICF and what we stand for.

We have repeatedly used the same theme as we worked overseas. Throughout the chilliest cold war relations between Soviets and Americans, ICF collaborated non-stop with Vladimir Flint and our other Russian friends for protection of the Siberian Cranes. A central part of my effort for over ten years has been to bridge the distrust between Chinese and Russians along their long frontier - once the location for the world's largest armies - on behalf of six migratory crane species sharing the Amur-Heilongjiang River Basin.

One reason for ICF's successes has been our hunger for learning. "Bringing people together" is easily said but the process must be learned anew in each situation. Over the years, I have written several times about Cao Hai Nature Reserve in this newsletter, about our efforts to involve poor Chinese farmers in wetland conservation. What actually happened first was that we had to become involved in the lives of farmers - a necessary step, because only after committing to their world could we reconstruct "conservation" to match their needs and passions rather than our own.

In Pakistan, working with Steven Landfried of Wisconsin and our Pakistani colleagues, we learned that crane hunting could not be controlled in the mountain passes until conservationists discovered the needs of the crane hunters and responded to them. These stories are not finished — alliance building takes time. In a few places like Cao Hai, ICF staff can directly take the time and the risk to bring people together. In other places, other people must demonstrate that kind of commitment and patience.

For me, the most important test of these values came close to home, a defining moment that required us to apply the lessons from the other side



CHANGE AND CO

Jim Harris,

On November 1, George Archibald stepped out of ICF. He will continue to serve in a salaried field projects. George will also continue as a... I am honored to be ICF's new president, and with readers a few memories as well as some





ctions

CONTINUITY AT ICF

President

aside as President and Chief Executive Officer position, focused on fund raising, writing, and member of ICF's Board of Directors.

during this time of transition, I want to share thoughts for the future.



of the world to our own community. In 1998 and 1999, a crane hunting season for Sandhill Cranes was proposed for Wisconsin.

Many people assumed that an organization dedicated to cranes must fight against a hunting season any way we could. But we at ICF - particularly Jeb Barzen and I, and others involved with crane research in farm areas of central Wisconsin - had spent much time working with farmers, land owners, and other people living with the cranes. We knew that the greatest threat to cranes in Wisconsin is the on-going loss and degradation of wetlands scattered across our agricultural landscapes, wetlands for the most part privately owned. ICF therefore took a different stand on the hunting issue, out of recognition that cranes need everyone (hunters, farmers, urban craniacs) if they are to survive. We believe that crane conservation, and ICF, must have room for everyone who cares about cranes. Only by bringing people together, rather than polarizing them on an issue like hunting, can we address the wetland and agricultural issues vital to cranes.

On the hunting issue, ICF is heavily committed to obtaining the relevant scientific information about our Wisconsin crane population, and to promoting dialogue and public participation. In these ways, we can help the people of Wisconsin make informed decisions that protect the cranes and their wetlands, as well as address concerns and needs of farmers and other land owners.

As part of this dialogue, ICF is committed to bringing together people whose widely diverse views will shape the future for cranes. Our vision as an organization is to be a place where different people can cooperate and learn from each other. Such an approach distinguishes our work with farmers to solve problems of crane damage to crops, and our recent efforts to collaborate with land owners in devising their own strategies for conservation at Fairfield Marsh just east of Baraboo.

Cranes are birds of peace and unity. As we pass this time of transition, we are fulfilling one of the dreams from our founding days. ICF offers members and diverse supporters a meeting place, with staff and with friends around the world, to learn how cranes and people can live in a modern, conflict-ridden world. 🖱

Top photo: Looking at cranes, one feels they are timeless while the world changes around them. Their voices create echoes inside those of us who listen. But the cranes, too, are changing. They have learned to live among people, in more and more places where humans care well for the cranes. Photo by Mark Romesser.

Far left: ICF's Grey Crowned Cranes meet three friends: Lindy Rodwell, a leading conservationist from South Africa who came to ICF in 1989 as an intern; Ann Burke, formerly an intern and then an aviculturist at ICF, who has worked with Lindy in Africa over the past two years; and Rich Beilfuss, Hydrologist on ICF staff, who heads our African program. ICF's strength derives from the people who have been drawn to the cranes, and who keep returning. Photo by George Archibald.

Left: Farmers and school children "read" the May 2000 issue of *The ICF Bugle*, that features their own work for conservation in southwestern China. The Bugle's readership is remarkably diverse, and one day may rival the diversity inherent in our crane mission. Photo by Jim Harris.

[See the May 1999 issue of *The ICF Bugle* for more about cranes, crops, and hunting in Wisconsin.]

Contributions

July 1 - September 30, 2000

GRANTS AND AWARDS

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service;
Janet Balding, Jr.;
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Bress in
memory of
George D. Billings;
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Brumder;
Institute of Museum &
Library Services;
National Fish &
Wildlife Foundation;
Dorse Family Foundation;
Drake Charitable Gift Fund;
Jacob & Terese
Hershey Foundation;
Pat & Dave
Hurd Foundation;
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Johnson;
Turner Foundation, Inc.;
Windway Capital Corp.;
Menasha
Corporation Foundation;
Helen Mackensen;
The Mennen
Environmental Foundation;
Houston Endowment, Inc.;
Kikkoman Foods
Foundation;
African Wildlife Foundation;
Robert M. & Anne W. Bolz;
The Disney Wildlife
Conservation Fund;
Graciel Breeding &
Conservation Center;
Way Trust;

United Nations Environment
Programme Trust Fund;
Alma Doten Trust;
Puelicher Foundation;
Baraboo Bancorporation.

PATRONS

Dr. Josephine Murray;
Amy Rosenblatt.

SPONSORS

Susan Avery;
Mrs. Walter Brisserden;
The Donnelley Foundation;
James R. & Nina H.
Donnelley Family Fund;
Lenud Fraser;
Grootemaat Foundation Inc.;
Nancy Lange Kuczynski;
Jeanne Swanson;
Emily Wade.

SUSTAINING

Gayle Anderson;
Ammar Archbold;
Sarah Armour;
Mary Bane;
Mr. & Mrs. Keith Becker;
Susan Billedeau;
Myrna Brindley;
Mr. & Mrs. Dave Brittain;
Julie Cortez;
Barbara Dickson;
Deb Dirs;
Bea Kabler;

Virginia Lucke
Memorial Fund;
Robert Madden;
Betty Jane Peregó;
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Raboud;
Campbell Read;
H. Jean Rowley;
Mr. & Mrs. Stan Sutherland;
Barbara Jane Thompson;
Mrs. Robert Weinstock;
Mr. & Mrs. David Whitmore.

NEW ASSOCIATES

Bob Bayley;
Adele Bennett;
Margrit Benton;
Dan Bishop;
Kathryn Christian;
Diane Coursolle;
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Dalrymple;
Richard & Jane Dana;
Dr. & Mrs. Lester Davis;
John Hoffman;
Jason Hunter;
Gilbert Ives;
Joy Joslyn;
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Kueter;
Ralph Leonard;
Dr. & Mrs. Richard Pearson;
Marilyn Potter;
Mrs. H. C. Seher-Thoss;
Barbara Stuhler;
Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Zellner.



2000 Bird-a-thon

By Bob Hallam
Development Coordinator



ICF's annual Bird-a-thon raised over \$25,000 for the Ron Sauvey Conservation Fund and ICF operations. Income from the Sauvey Fund supports the Ron Sauvey Library for Bird Conservation. Over \$230,000 has been raised since 1988. We wish to thank all who participated this year.

First place and grand prize went to Todd Bugg. Todd won a framed print by Owen Gromme entitled "Lake Michigan: Golden Eye, Oldsquaws, Bufflehead." Second place went to Judith Bautch, with Cathryn Steuer taking third. All top three finishers received a framed print by Owen Gromme entitled "Cedar Waxwings and Mulberries."

The other top-scoring teams were William Abbot (4th), Mary Ann Mahoney (5th), Mr. and Mrs. Dale Oestreich (6th), Viola White (7th), Michael John Jaeger (8th), Donna Carmichael (9th), and Tom Schmidt (10th). Each team has received the Absolute II Squirrel Proof Bird feeder sponsored by the Bird Barn of Baraboo, WI. All who watched birds and raised money also received *Prairie Time Revisited - Aldo Leopold Reserve Revisited* by John and Beth Ross sponsored by the University Wisconsin Press.

We wish to thank Chuck Brei of Meuer Art of Madison, Wisconsin for donating and framing the cedar waxwing prints.

The ICF Bugle is the quarterly newsletter for members of the International Crane Foundation (ICF). Bugle comments or questions? Please write me at 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 ...	\$20	Family	\$35
Individual.....	\$25	Associate	\$100
Foreign.....	\$30	Sustaining	\$250
		Sponsor.....	\$500
		Patron	\$1,000
		Benefactor.....	\$2,000

ICF WISH LIST:

Want to help? Call
Vice-President Peter Murray
at 608-356-9462 ext. 153

- Laminator - 36" across
- New slide projector - Kodak Ektagraphic IIIA projector.
- Radiographic table
- Real-motion, time lapse recorder/player (VCR) Model number AG/RT600A (needed to observe crane pairs housed in Crane City)
- Golf Cart - to help give tours to people who have difficulty walking.

Annual Meeting 2000 Sun and Smiles!

Sandy our Sandhill Crane mascot welcomes Lindy Rodwell upon her arrival from South Africa to Wisconsin. Over 200 ICF members listened to Lindy, South African Crane Working Group co-chair and former ICF intern, at the Kalahari, an African-themed resort. Her presentation highlighted the threats to Africa's Blue, Grey Crowned, and Wattled Cranes, as well as the plans she and her colleagues have to save them from extinction. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Assistant Regional Director, John Christian, received the Good Egg Award for his coordination of the Whooping Crane Eastern Partnership. If all goes well with the current Sandhill Crane ultralight led migration, there could be Whooping Cranes reintroduced to Wisconsin as early as 2001. Mark your calendars for next year's annual meeting on Saturday, **September 15, 2001.**

If you are interested in following the ultralight led Sandhill Crane migration - check out www.savingcranes.org under *What's New* for a daily field journal at www.operation-migration.org.



In Memory of Vladimir Panchenko

By Vladimir Flint and Claire Mirande,
Director of Conservation Services

Sad news has come to us from the Oka Biosphere Reserve. Dr. Vladimir G. Panchenko passed away on September 27, 2000. The renowned Russian ornithologist and crane expert - and an exceptionally humble and kind man - prematurely left this world after a year of struggle with a terminal illness. The sharp pain of this loss is especially felt by the Oka Reserve and its globally respected Breeding Center for Endangered Cranes. To many of us Vladimir Panchenko was not just a colleague, but also a close friend, even a brother.

At first glance, Vladimir's life seems straightforward and simple, but behind this stood true everyday heroism. Vladimir's way of life meant stretching mental and physical resources, self-sacrifice, and the outstanding commitment and erudition of a true scientist.

Vladimir was born in the Ukraine on February 28, 1941 into a working-class family. After high school, he studied biology at Odessa State University. There, Professor I. I. Puzanov played a key role in molding Panchenko's interests as a researcher and naturalist. In 1963, the university sent Panchenko to Oka Reserve for undergraduate field research. This encounter determined his future. Oka's director V. P. Teplov quickly noted Vladimir's strong commitment to science and fantastic capacity for work. Under Dr. Teplov's mentoring, Panchenko studied different aspects of waterfowl biology.

In 1966, Vladimir obtained a much-

desired position at Oka. His early work was dedicated to waterbird research: banding and migration studies, collecting duck wings from hunters, and impacts of hunting pressure on population structure. Vladimir published over 40 research papers and in 1978 successfully defended his Ph.D. thesis, "Water-birds of Oka State Reserve." He pioneered a number of wildlife biology studies and became a recognized expert in waterfowl research.

In 1979, a breeding center for endangered cranes was established in the Oka Reserve with help and encouragement from ICF. Vladimir was selected as a director for this pilot project. Although his expertise in cranes was limited, he charged forward.

The Oka Crane Breeding Center started on an empty lot, with minimal funding and considerable opposition. But a real research center miraculously emerged, with laboratories, incubators, and state-of-the-art pens. For the first time in Oka history, crane voices rang over the ancient Brykin Bor woods - first Eurasian Cranes, then rare Siberian Cranes, and finally endangered cranes from Asia, America, and Africa. This was a victory for the philosophy of captive propagation and creation of genetic banks for endangered species in Russia, and Vladimir was the commander-in-chief.

It is almost impossible to measure

everything that Vladimir accomplished: design and construction of crane enclosures; procedures for crane feeding and healthcare; mastering the "secrets" of captive breeding; the International Siberian Crane Studbook; a Russian



Two Russian heroes in conservation, Dr. Vladimir Panchenko (left) and Professor Vladimir Flint, study the nest and eggs of Siberian Cranes on the tundra of Yakutia, Russia. Photo by Dr. Alexander Sorokin

school to train specialists in crane research and propagation. The international recognition accorded the Oka Crane Breeding Center is Vladimir's well-deserved award and legacy.

There is something else to be said about him in this time of grief. His integrity, adherence to principle, and independent thinking led him to become a figure of moral authority for his coworkers. When friction inevitably arose in the small and isolated community, people turned to Vladimir for moral discretion, wisdom, and support. Such trust and love are not easy to win. 🖱

The Oka Breeding Center for Endangered Cranes and ICF...

...grew up together since our humble beginnings in the 1970s. Vladimir Panchenko and George Archibald established captive flocks of Siberian Cranes at our two centers from eggs collected from the remote tundra. For over 20 years we have jointly uncovered the mysteries of Siberian Crane behavior and propagation. We dealt with aggression between pairs, asynchronous egg and semen production, and arthritis. Vladimir and George both "paired" with imprinted female Sibes to successfully stimulate egg laying. Through staff exchanges we solved problems as they arose. Today over 100 Siberian Cranes reside in 17 breeding centers around the world and Oka and ICF are producing eggs and chicks for release into the wild. ICF shared a dream with Vladimir to speed recovery of the Siberian Crane. In his honor, ICF has established a Vladimir Panchenko Siberian Crane Conservation Fund in support of the Oka Breeding Center. Donations would be gratefully accepted. Please send your donation to ICF Attn: Panchenko Memorial.

**REDISCOVER WWW.SAVINGCRANES.ORG
YOU WON'T BELIEVE YOUR EYES!**

ICF's website has undergone a transformation! Not only is our new design beautiful to look at, it is a pleasure to use. We have made the site easier to navigate, more organized, and user-friendly. New features include a convenient search tool, secure server for credit card purchases and membership renewals, as well as great new pages just for kids.

Discover for yourself all that ICF has to offer on the Internet. Visit us at www.savingcranes.org. Make us your homepage and tell your friends!

On-line Holiday Shopping

One new feature is that our website is now secure. This means you can purchase items from our gift shop using your credit card over the Internet. ICF members receive a 10% discount on all purchases! Visit www.savingcranes.org to view our catalog and order form.

Questions? Email ICF Gift Shop Manager Nancy Bayer at giftshop@savingcranes.org.

Purchasing gifts from ICF's Gift Shop is an excellent way to benefit the Foundation, but there's another way for you as an on-line consumer to benefit ICF. You can shop at all your favorite on-line retailers (Amazon, Lands End, PetSmart, etc...) and up to 15% of your total purchases will be donated to ICF, at absolutely NO cost to you! As you can imagine, those numbers can add up quickly during the holiday shopping season. Here's how you do it:

1. Go to ICF's website at www.savingcranes.org
2. Select "Get Involved"
3. Follow the instructions on that page.

This will take you to an extensive list of participating retailers. By entering their websites via our site, they will automatically credit our account with a donation based upon your purchases. Again, this costs you NOTHING and is absolutely confidential. To find out more about this unique program for non-profits—visit www.greatergood.com. Happy Shopping...

ORDER YOUR HOLIDAY CARDS FROM ICF

The cranes will benefit from your purchase and your friends will love receiving them!



Greeting: *Peace and harmony from our earth home to yours.*
10 for \$15 plus shipping and tax*
Art by Janet Flynn



Greeting: *Peace on Earth*
10 for \$8 plus shipping and tax*
Art by Janet Flynn



Greeting: *Season's Greetings*
10 for \$12 plus shipping and tax*
Art by Sue Cocca



Greeting: *Season's Greetings and a Happy, Healthy New Year*
10 for \$15 plus shipping and tax*
Art by Utagawa Hiroshige



Greeting: *Rejoice!*
10 for \$8 plus shipping and tax*
Art by Janet Flynn

* Tax where applicable



International Crane Foundation

E11376 Shady Lane Rd. (608) 356-9462
P.O. Box 447 Fax: 356-9465
Baraboo, Wisconsin 53913-0447 cranes@savingcranes.org
Website: www.savingcranes.org

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Melbourne, FL
Permit No. 724

Address Service Requested

