



*A copy of the Audubon print "Blue Heron" is presented to each fully certified member.*

# IT'S PARTY TIME!

*The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program reaches a milestone.*

by **RON DODSON**

**B**ELIEVE IT OR NOT, it has been five years since the launching of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses. In 1991, the Audubon Society of New York State had the idea that a properly sited, designed, and maintained golf course could be an environmental benefit to a community. We believed that it was time for an environmental organization to take a proactive approach to environmental improvement, rather than the typical reactive, negative, anti-everything approach that seemed to be the norm in the environmental movement. As we just complete

our fifth year, it is time to reflect . . . and party!

It all started with a couple of courses in upstate New York and a chance meeting between Audubon and the USGA. As we discussed environmental and wildlife issues surrounding the proposed redevelopment of a closed golf course, a light went off. Just possibly, we could gain more if we worked together rather than against each other, particularly since we seemed to really believe in the same things relative to environmental protection. The idea of the Cooperative Sanctuary Program was already in place for homeowners

and business properties, so why not take it to golf courses across the country?

During 1991, I had the pleasure of traveling around the United States and meeting with a large number of golf course superintendents, owners, and course officials to introduce the idea of working cooperatively with Audubon. Most of these gatherings took place at regional USGA meetings. If we could get 100 golf courses to enroll as Cooperative Sanctuaries, we might just have a workable program. By the end of 1991, we found that 275 properties had enrolled. There was no question



in our minds that interest was high and the desire was great to merge golf course management and environmental management into a unified program.

During that first year we learned a lot. We learned that many courses were already practicing great conservation management, and many courses had a long way to go. We also learned that those of us who were trained in the wildlife and environmental sciences had a lot to learn about the policies and politics of golf course management.

As a central focus for the program, we created an opportunity for each golf course to become *Fully Certified* in the program. We began by creating certification categories in Environmental Planning, Wildlife and Habitat Management, Water Conservation, Water Quality Management, Integrated Pest Management, and Outreach and Education, to serve as check marks while striving toward Fully Certified status. Today, nearly 100 courses have been fully certified. We have created forms, booklets, fact sheets, and videos, and we have spent countless hours on the telephone explaining what our forms mean, where bluebird boxes are supposed to be placed, and how to discourage Canada geese. We've hired staff that spends 100 percent of their time working with those who manage golf courses. And recently we hired a

golf course superintendent to be our golf program specialist.

We have seen the golf program grow from two members to more than 2,000 in the past five years. Although that number is impressive, what is even more impressive is the fact that those Cooperative Sanctuary members represent 359,197 acres of woods, wetlands, prairie, turf, estuary, desert, and other types of habitat that are homes for countless numbers of wildlife species. We have members who have treated secondary wastewater, reclaimed abused land, and who continue to expand their commitment to conservation. This year superintendents around the country have become mentors for school kids and sources of agronomic and land management information for government agencies and homeowners.

From the beginning of the program in 1991, the USGA has been the sponsor. In addition to the financial support that has allowed us to keep the annual membership fee of the program at \$100 per course, while at the same time increasing the variety of materials that we are giving members, they have pushed for participation in the program during meetings, in printed materials, and everywhere else they can. Thanks to those of you who took up the challenge, we can now say that the first five years have been a resounding success.

Your involvement has resulted in millions of gallons of water savings, countless kilowatt hours of electricity not having to be produced, huge reductions in the use of non-renewable, chemical-based products for course management, and increases in the biological diversity on courses that have blended the game back with nature. Golf and the environment are both better off because of your involvement. So, from me to you, here is a collective PAT ON THE BACK for your membership, commitment, and support. We believe that you have hit a hole-in-one for the environment, and it is time to celebrate. We'd like to highlight those leaders and staunch supporters who became charter members of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses that first year and have continued to support and participate in the program over the past five years.

Together, let's make the next five years even more impressive. Although 2,000 members is exciting, it is only a small percent of the total courses in the United States. Challenge your fellow course managers to follow your lead. See you on the links.

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RON DODSON *and the staff of Audubon International are celebrating at the Selkirk, New York, headquarters.*

*Scout troops have volunteered to build, install, and monitor nest boxes on the golf course while learning about wildlife habitat management.*



## Charter Members of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses

Golf Course	State	Fully Certified	Golf Course	State	Fully Certified
Chenal Country Club	AR		Rail Golf Club, Inc.	IL	
Hindman Park Golf Course	AR	05/25/1994	Aldeen Golf Club	IL	
Rebsamen Park Golf Course	AR		Forest Hills Country Club	IL	
Kierland Golf Club	AZ		Silver Lake Country Club	IL	05/06/1997
Aptos Seascape Golf Course	CA		Wolf Run Golf Club	IN	
Fallbrook Golf Club	CA		Lake Hills Golf Club	IN	
North Ridge Country Club	CA		Indian Oaks Golf Club	IN	
City of San Mateo G.C.	CA		Elcona Country Club	IN	
Bel Air Country Club	CA		Harrison Lake Country Club	IN	
Resort at Squaw Creek	CA	11/21/1995	Meridian Hills Country Club	IN	
Olivas Park Golf Course	CA		Salina Country Club	KS	
Pasatiempo Golf Club	CA		Willowbend Golf Club	KS	
Bear Creek Golf Club	CA		Mission Hills Country Club	KS	
Riverside Golf Course	CA		Lake Quivira Country Club	KS	
Morro Bay Golf Course	CA	01/06/1995	St. Andrews Golf Course	KS	
Bartley W. Cavanaugh Course	CA		Bluffs on Thompson Creek	LA	
Crystal Springs Golf Course	CA		Eastward Ho! Country Club	MA	
Old Brockway Golf Course	CA		Acoaxet Club	MA	
Stockdale Country Club	CA		Farm Neck Golf Club	MA	
Castle Pines Golf Club	CA	12/16/1994	Nashawtuc Country Club	MA	
Fox Hollow at Lakewood	CO		Stockbridge Golf Club	MA	
City Park Nine Golf Course	CO		Kings Way Golf Club	MA	
Grand Lake Country Club	CO		Sagamore Spring Golf Club	MA	
Rolling Hills Country Club	CO		Oyster Harbors Golf Club	MA	
Lakewood Country Club	CO		Shaker Hills Golf Club	MA	
Greenwich Country Club	CT		Congressional Country Club	MD	
Country Club of Farmington	CT		Eagle's Landing Golf Course	MD	06/05/1995
Black Hall Club	CT		Caves Valley Golf Club	MD	
Fairview Country Club	CT		Portland Country Club	ME	04/29/1997
Woodway Country Club	CT	12/01/1994	Lochmoor Club	MI	
Country Club of New Canaan	CT		Gull Lake View Golf Club	MI	10/16/1995
Lake Waramaug Country Club	CT		Saginaw Country Club	MI	
Country Club of Florida	FL		Treetops Sylvan Resort	MI	04/13/1994
Orange Tree Golf Club	FL		Grand Traverse Resort	MI	03/26/1997
Pelicans Nest Golf Course	FL		Belvedere Golf Club	MI	
Old Marsh Golf Club, Inc.	FL		Bloomfield Hills Country Club	MI	
Oak Tree Country Club	FL		High Pointe Golf Club	MI	
Piper's Landing Country Club	FL		TPC of Michigan	MI	01/28/1994
Grenelefe Golf & Tennis Resort	FL		Spring Lake Country Club	MI	
TPC at Sawgrass	FL	02/01/1996	Meadows Golf Club	MI	
Country Club at Jacaranda West	FL		Minikahda Club	MN	01/06/1995
Feather Sound Country Club	FL		Superior National at Lutsen	MN	
Johns Island Club	FL		Golden Valley Country Club	MN	
Fiddlesticks Country Club	FL		Rochester Golf & Country Club	MN	
Tampa Palms Golf & Country Club	FL	03/31/1993	Princeton Golf Club	MN	
Panama Country Club	FL	04/30/1997	Rush Creek Golf Club	MN	
Wilderness Country Club	FL		Sunset Country Club	MO	
Farm Golf Club	GA		Quail Creek Golf Club	MO	
Standard Club	GA	02/01/1995	Algonquin Golf Club	MO	
Golf Club of Georgia	GA		MSU Golf Course	MS	
Waikoloa Golf Club — Beach Course	HI		Eagle Bend Golf Course, c/o Golf NW	MT	
Kapalua Land Co. — Bay Course	HI	01/11/1993	Lake Hickory Country Club	NC	
Kapalua Land Co. — Village Course	HI	09/22/1994	Country Club of North Carolina	NC	
Kapalua Land Co. — Plantation Course	HI	08/22/1994	Woodlake Country Club	NC	
Finkbine Golf Course	IA		St. James Planta: Gauntlet Course	NC	
Danville Country Club	IL		Landfall Club	NC	
Pinecrest Golf & Country Club	IL		Cedarwood Country Club	NC	
Village Links of Glen Ellyn	IL	07/21/1993	Apple Creek Country Club	ND	03/02/1994
St. Charles Country Club	IL	02/12/1993	Pioneer's Golf Course	NE	
Mt. Prospect Golf Course	IL		Abenaquí Country Club, Inc.	NH	





*As part of the Outreach and Education certification category in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program, some golf course superintendents have hosted student field trips to the golf course to teach about conservation and stewardship projects.*

Golf Course	State	Fully Certified
Country Club of Troy	NY	
Centerpointe Country Club	NY	
Weatherwax Golf Course	OH	
Maketewah Country Club	OH	
Sycamore Creek Country Club	OH	
Yankee Run Golf Course	OH	
Hickley Hills Golf Course	OH	
Salishan Golf Links	OR	08/01/1994
Willamette Valley Country Club	OR	
Astoria Country Club	OR	
Resort at the Mountain	OR	
Lords Valley Country Club	PA	01/16/1996
Radnor Valley Country Club	PA	
St. Davids Golf Club	PA	
Cedarbrook Public Golf Club	PA	
Scotch Valley Country Club	PA	
Blue Ridge Country Club	PA	
Cherry Wood Golf Course	PA	
Chester Valley Golf Club	PA	02/16/1995
Sakonnet Golf Club	RI	
Rhode Island Country Club	RI	
Palmetto Hall Plantation	SC	03/13/1997
Country Club of Charleston	SC	
Pawley's Plantation Golf & CC	SC	
Whispering Pines	SC	
Minnehaha Country Club	SD	
Honors Course	TN	
South Shore Harbour C.C.	TX	
Lakeside Country Club	TX	08/18/1995
Barton Creek Conference Resort	TX	
Homestead Resort & Golf Club	UT	
Kingsmill Golf Club	VA	
Robert Trent Jones Golf Club	VA	11/20/1995
Chantilly National Golf & C.C.	VA	
Golden Horseshoe Golf Course	VA	
Equinox: Gleneagles Golf Course	VT	
Glendale Country Club	WA	
Wing Point Golf & Country Club	WA	
Semiahmoo Golf & Country Club	WA	11/24/1993
Everett Golf & Country Club	WA	
Glendale Country Club	WA	
Royal Oaks Country Club	WA	05/05/1997
Blackwolf Run	WI	
Bristol Ridge Golf Course	WI	
Wausau Golf Club	WI	
Edgewood Country Club	WV	01/27/1997
Seymour Golf & Country Club	Ontario, Canada	
Conestoga Country Club	Ontario, Canada	05/07/1997
Hamilton Golf & Country Club	Ontario, Canada	
Nobleton Lakes Golf Course	Ontario, Canada	04/18/1997
West Haven Golf & Country Club	Ontario, Canada	
Islesmere Golf and C.C.	Quebec, Canada	
Royal Montreal Golf Club	Quebec, Canada	
Valderrama Golf Club	Cadiz, Spain	

Golf Course	State	Fully Certified
Hoodcroft Country Club	NH	
Kingswood Golf Club	NH	
Brooklake Country Club	NJ	
Trenton Country Club	NJ	
Ridgewood Country Club	NJ	08/01/1996
Mendham Golf & Tennis	NJ	
Oak Hill Golf Club	NJ	
Pine Valley Golf Club	NJ	
Alpine Country Club	NJ	
Cedar Creek Golf Course	NJ	
Eastlyn Golf Course	NJ	
Fiddler's Elbow Country Club	NJ	06/08/1995
Arcola Country Club	NJ	
Cape May National Golf Club	NJ	
Brooklake Country Club	NJ	
Metedeconk National Golf Club	NJ	
Santa Fe Country Club	NM	
Painted Desert Golf Course	NV	
Oak Hill Country Club	NY	
New Course at Albany	NY	
Stafford Country Club	NY	
Quogue Field Club	NY	
Blind Brook Club	NY	
Dyker Beach Golf Course	NY	
Niagara Falls Country Club	NY	
Twin Hills Golf Course I	NY	
Southward Ho Country Club	NY	
Schuyler Meadows Club	NY	06/28/1995
Westchester Country Club	NY	07/03/1996
Marriott's Golf Club at Windwatch	NY	
Pinehaven Country Club	NY	