World bond

Nature lovers share interests around globe

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N the Broadway musical "Sidder on the Roof," the song "Traditions" fold the theme of the drama the only thing consistent is change.

Throughout the years, we all develop conceptions about the people, places and things around us. For many years wildlife and the natural world were thought to be there only for man's exploitation.

Today, I like to think that people are beginning to see another aspect of the natural world.

PRELIMINARY results of a 1985 government survey indicated that 48 percent, or almost one out of two adults 16 years and older, enjoy feeding birds. Non-consumptive ap-preciation of widdlife has grown 34 percent since the previous survey in 1980.

1980.

Appreciating wildlife in the back-yard can lead to an enjoyment of natural subjects wherever one may travel. No matter where you go, "nature" is always there. An awareness of familiar subjects can enhance your appreciation when they are seen miles from home. Just the other night I heard Dr. Algirdas Knystautas, an ornithologist





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from the Soviet Union. He showed many excellent photographs of birds and animals that I had never seen

and animals that I had never seen before. But when he projected the picture of the osprey it reminded me of those I had seen recently at Crooked Lake. Although his photo was taken half-way around the world, I felt it could have been taken in northern Michigan.

NOT ONLY did Dr. Knystautas talk about the different types of wildlife present, but he also talked about conservation efforts to pre-

Boat Conservation errors to pre-serve them.
Russia has pollution problems, erosion problems and a reduction in

wildlife habitat, just as the United States does.

And like the United States, the Soviet Union has captive breeding campaigns under way to help establish native populations of endangered species, like the great bustard, so that they may eventually be released into the wild.

They have reserves and national parks where research and recreation of wildlife and natural areas can be appreciated.

Dr. Knystautas also expressed a deep love for the natural areas be showed us. I could tell, in the words he used to describe his subjects, that his involvement was far more has a continuous control of the contr

HIS PROGRAM enlightened me to the variety of habitats that are found in the Soviet Union, whose people also have a keen interest in natural history.

One comment he made, which I remember clearly, was that even

when diplomatic relations between Russia and the U.S. were cut off be-cause of the invasion of Afghanistan, U.S. and Russian ornithologists con-tinued to communicate and work to-gether to help an endangered species of crane.

of crane.

Recent efforts by the Russians and
Americans to save two gray whales
illustrate a common goal — to pre-serve and to ald wildlife. They also
illustrate a change in traditional
Russian attitudes that Dr. Knystau-tas referred to several times during
his talk.

his talk.

A bird, butterfly, whale or any wild creature — other than man — has no political or religious convictions to alienate it. They are marvels of adaptation, creatures of beauty and forthright in their goals. Features and characteristics anyone can proposelie.

appreciate.
It makes me wonder: If music is said to be the international language, could nature serve as an international bond?

The writer is staff naturalist at Independence Oaks County Park.

Thompson to join North Central team



Richard T. Thompson of Oakland Community College has been chosen a consultant-evaluator for the Com-mission on Institutions of Higher Ed-ucation of the North Central Associ-ation of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

Thompson is vice chancellor for academic services at OCC and for-mer provest of the Orchard Ridge Campus.

Campus.

He is one of 65 people who will be on teams visiting campuses to obtain information for their accreditation. After four-day visits, the teams write reports. Teams must be experienced, represent a wide variety of institutions and commit time and energy.

nergy.
Thompson said evaluators also broaden their own points of view through their visits.

British troops are Irish topic

Frank O'Neill — a writer and lecturer from London, England — will Visit the area to speak about British rroops in Northern Ireland at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, in the Ancient O'Reil of Hibernians Hall, 24:22 Grand River west of Telegraph, Redford. Admission is free.

O'Neill at a spokesman for the Control of the Control of the State of Neill advocates involving a wide Troops Out Movement, an organization with branches in major cities

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Women's health talk topic

"Women's Health Care: Enhancing our Wellness . . . Connecting our Strengths," a one-day conference for women, is set for Saturday, Nov. 12, in the Womencenter on Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills.

The conference is scheduled for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Keynote speaker will

be Jeancite Poindexter, associate professor in the College of Nursing at Wayne State University. The conference will address health issues facing women. Admission is \$10 for the general public and \$7 for seniors and stu-dents. Participants are asked to bring a brown-bag lunch.

Tickets may be purchased in advance or at the door on the day of the conference. If free child-care is needed, reservations must be made

Phone OCC at 471-7602 for reservations and information on other events at the Womencenter.

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