

Spoonbills Speak

echoes across the Pacific



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JOIN US FOR SAVE'S FIVE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY EVENT!

WHEN: Monday, August 26, 6-8 pm

WHERE: Wurster Hall, Room 315A
U.C. Berkeley campus

WHAT: A look back and to our future, reception to follow.

This month SAVE International will show no mercy...for ourselves, that is. At our anniversary event SAVE will present a report card of the grades we earned in various "subjects" over the last five years. Some we aced, some were a struggle, but to move forward we must first take a serious look back. Please join us as we celebrate our successes, map out our future, and thank those who have helped us along the way. Past supporters, new members and the simply curious are welcome. For additional information, call (510) 642-7722.

A HERO'S WELCOME



Su with SAVE members at the Eastbay Shoreline Park

In April Magistrate Su of Tainan County visited with SAVE members in Berkeley as part of his west coast fact-finding tour. SAVE escorted Su and his delegation to sites in Berkeley that were of special interest for planning in Tainan, the Green Valley

industrial area and the Eastbay Shoreline Park. Both sites offered valuable lessons – Su's administration is actively promoting sustainable industries in Tainan County and is seeking to preserve areas of coastal Tainan for spoonbill protection and recreation.

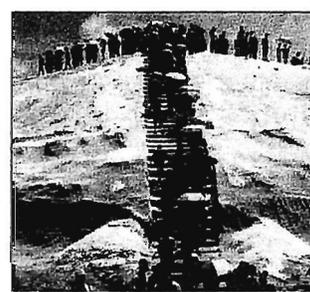
After the tour, a lively dinner discussion focused on past accomplishments and present challenges to protecting the black-faced spoonbill. It was a great honor for SAVE to host Magistrate Su, who is perhaps the person most responsible for saving the spoonbill from extinction.

NATIONAL SCENIC AREA PLAN TO BE GLOBAL EFFORT

Magistrate Su announced in April that a large area of coastal Tainan County would be planned as a national scenic area. The plan will be developed through a partnership of local people, county and central government planning staff, National Taiwan University, the University of California, Berkeley *and* experts from around the world in ecotourism development, scenic and habitat conservation, and transportation.

The intent of the plan is to provide protection for the black-faced spoonbill, develop jobs in green industry and tourism, and enhance aquaculture. It will be based on the alternative plan developed by NTU and Berkeley.

Randy Hester and Wen-ling Tu, of SAVE, were part of a workshop held in coastal Tainan in late April to outline the planning process.



Tourists flock to Salt Mountain's new salt museum

There will be a series of community workshops in Tainan County in which local people will work with global experts to develop parts of the plan. This will culminate in an event in December 2002. The resulting plan will then be submitted to the Taiwan central government for approval.

MACAU ALERT!

SAVE International has just learned that the government of China's Macau territory plans to build a casino in the area's last remaining wetlands. Local researchers reported that 40 black-faced spoonbills wintered in the wetlands last season with the potential to harbor more. Concerned residents are pleading for international pressure on the government of Macau to preserve this vital habitat. SAVE International aims to help...stay tuned for further updates of what you can do.

CONTACT!

Early this winter SAVE launched its flyway network, sending 15 packets to bird activists in Japan, Korea, and Hong Kong. Shigeki Takano from the Yatsushiro Wild Birds Lovers Society responded to our questionnaire. The group, located in Kyushu, Japan, has been surveying black-faced spoonbills in the Hi River since 1997 – this year 22 were sighted.

According to Takano-san, the spoonbills “use the tidal flats as feeding sites and the islets in the estuary as resting places”. But this habitat is in danger – there is a railway bridge proposed through the middle. SAVE is writing a letter of protest at the Society’s request.



Through the network process SAVE is now connecting with activists and scientists in the Philippines, where spoonbills were recently recorded for the first time. If you know of any organizations involved in conservation issues along the black-faced spoonbill flyway, let us know!

CHIKU STORY HITS WORLD STAGE

The United Nations’ “Rio+10” World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) will be held in August and September in Johannesburg, South Africa. The World Sustainable Hearings (WSH), one of the projects of Earth Island Institute (EII), will be organized as a parallel event at the Johannesburg summit. As part

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of the EII family, SAVE International is working actively with our sister project by bringing our colleagues in Taiwan to participate and present the Chiku environmental campaigns at the hearings.

SAVE helped the Taiwan Environmental Protection Union, Tainan (TEPU Tainan) acquire funding to attend the hearings through the Global Greengrants Fund. TEPU Tainan is now preparing for the event with the help of SAVE’s Jeff Hou, who is working with Taiwan representatives to translate documents and frame campaign strategies. In addition to TEPU Tainan, organizations such as the Meinung People’s Association (SAVE’s long-time ally), Green Citizen Action Alliance, and Taiwan Association for Victims of Occupational Injuries will share their experiences in the hearings. They will review their environmental, community, and labor campaigns and discuss the challenges they face in achieving local sustainability.

HELLO FROM CHI-CHAO THE SPOONBILL



Hi guys!

I’m having a nice summer in Korea so far. It’s great to hang out with my friends who spend their winters elsewhere. But do they ever have some wild stories to tell...

My buddy from Macau says they’re going to build a casino in her front yard. I don’t know who told them we liked gambling, but if anyone had asked they would know we’d much rather go fishing! Maybe you guys can see what you can do to help. Take care.

Love, Your Friend, Chi-chao.