

Ornithological Newsletter

American Ornithologists' Union
Cooper Ornithological Society
Waterbird Society

Association of Field Ornithologists
Raptor Research Foundation
Wilson Ornithological Society

Cheryl L. Trine, Editor

NUMBER 230

FEBRUARY 2016

ORGANIZATION NEWS

THE *ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWSLETTER ON-LINE* can be found at <http://www.osnabirds.org/on>. Also, visit:

OSNA - <http://www.osnabirds.org>

AOU - <http://www.aou.org>

AFO - <http://www.afonet.org>

COS - <http://www.cooper.org>

WS - <http://www.waterbirds.org>

RRF - <http://raptorresearchfoundation.org>

WOS - <http://www.ummz.lsa.umich.edu/birds/wos.html>

BIRDNET - <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/>

AOU 2016 STUDENT MEMBERSHIP AWARD WINNERS – The AOU is very pleased to welcome the 2016 class of Student Membership Awardees: Melissa Althouse, Carly Aulicky, Jorge Enrique Avendano, Margarida Barcelo Serra, Fernanda Bocalini, Sergio Bolivar, Mariane Bosholn, Lindsay Brown, Jack Bushman, Marialejandra Castro Farias, Aline Correa, Samuel Cowell, Samuel Dufour-Pelletier, Rory Eggleston, Kathleen Farley, Sarah Fischer, Andrew Fulmer, Connor Gable, Jordan Giese, Stephanie Gobert, Christian Andres Gorosito, Emily Graves, Mariamar Gutierrez Ramirez, Rachael Hasson, Rielle Hoeg, Erika Holland, Jenny Howard, Chelsea Johnson, Samuel Jones, Zachary Kahn, Jesse Laney, Ethan Linck, Fernando Machado-Stredel, Miguel Matta, Beverly McClenaghan, Noelle Moen, Malcom Moniz, Ines Moran, Claire Nemes, Julie Perreau, Danielle Ramsden, Amélie Roberto-Charron, Micholas Russo, Luis Enrique Sanchez Ramos, Spencer Schubert, Fabio Schunck, Elsie Shogren, Nadya Sotnychuk, Andrew Stillman, Eveling Tavera Fernandez, Alejandra Toledo, Mariana Tolentino Bento da Silva, Charles Van Rees, Meijuan Zhao. Collectively, these students hail from 39 universities located in nine countries from around the globe.

THE COOPER ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY YOUNG PROFESSIONAL AWARDS for the North American Ornithological Conference (NAOC) **16-20 Aug 2016** in Washington, DC. The Young Professional Presentation Award (YPA) recognizes early-career ornithological researchers for their outstanding contributions to ornithology. Two awardees will be selected to present (~30 minutes each) at the Young Professional Award session held at the 2016 NAOC meeting. In addition, the two awardees will receive a cash prize, travel support to the meeting, and will be the honorary guests at a reception attended by the COS president, officers, and the YPA committee. Candidates must be COS members and must have either 1) graduated within three years of the annual meeting or 2) at the time of the meeting be in the final phase of graduate studies (last 9 months). In addition, candidates must be sole author (or senior author, if the presentation is co-authored) of the presentation and are expected to be first author of published papers reporting the research. Applicants will be notified of decisions by 11 Apr 2016. The Young Professional Award has a limit of one per person. To apply for the YPA for the NAOC 2016 meeting, submit the following

ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWSLETTER (ISSN 0274-564X) is published bimonthly by OSNA, 5400 Bosque Blvd., Suite 680, Waco, TX 76710 (business@osnabirds.org). Membership dues in any OSNA society include \$2.00 for the cost of production of the newsletter. Separate subscriptions are not available. For application to membership write the OSNA office. Periodicals postage paid at Waco, TX.

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items (as a single pdf attachment) via e-mail to MATT JOHNSON (EM: cosypa@humboldt.edu) **by 15 March, 2016**. 1) 2-page curriculum vitae indicating graduation date 2) A mini-paper of your research following the guidelines of ARTICLES submission outlined in Nature (<http://www.nature.com/nature/authors/gta/#a1.1>). Body of text (abstract through discussion) should not exceed 1,500 words; literature cited, tables, figures, and figure captions are not included in the word count, but figures and tables are limited to 4 total. Please see the conference website for additional information on the conference, awards, and other opportunities.

RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION CONFERENCE, **16-20 Oct 2016**. New Jersey Audubon's Cape May Bird Observatory will host the annual conference in Cape May, New Jersey. The meeting will be held on the oceanfront at the Grand Hotel of Cape May.

NOMINATIONS FOR AOU OFFICERS AND ELECTIVE COUNCILORS must be received by the Secretary four months before the Stated Meeting. Thus, this year nominations are **due 15 April 2016**. Officers to be elected will be President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and four Elective Councilors. The election will occur by electronic and postal ballots prior to the meeting. At the conclusion of the 134th Stated Meeting, Scott M. Lanyon will complete his term as President and Steven R. Beissinger will begin his first year as President. AOU is actively soliciting nominees for President-Elect. The Bylaws of the AOU require that the Secretary and Treasurer be elected or reelected annually. The incumbent Secretary (Andrew W. Jones) and Treasurer (Rebecca T. Kimball) are willing to stand for re-election. Of the total of twelve Elective Councilors, four are elected annually to serve terms of approximately three years, beginning at the close of the Stated Meeting. Elective Councilors to be replaced at the conclusion of the 134th Stated Meeting in 2016 are David N. Bonter, Kevin J. Burns, Deborah M. Finch, Patricia J. Heglund. Continuing to serve in 2016-2017 will be Elective Councilors Elizabeth Derryberry, Katie Dugger, Colleen M. Handel, Kevin Orland, James W. Rivers, Viviana Ruiz-Gutierrez, Rebecca J. Safran, and David W. Winkler. The procedure for nominating AOU Officers and Elective Councilors is outlined in the Bylaws (Art. IV, Sec. 2). "Each Fellow and Elective Member shall be invited to nominate to the Secretary, persons for President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Elective Councilors. These nominations shall be received by the Secretary four months before the Stated Meeting. Nominations for all Officers and Elective Councilors must be accompanied by documented consent of the nominee." Nominations may be submitted electronically or in writing to the Secretary, ANDREW W. JONES, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, 1 Wade Oval Drive - University Circle, Cleveland, OH 44106 USA (EM: ajones@cmnh.org).

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2016 MEMBERSHIP CLASSES of Fellow and Elective Member of the AOU are being accepted now **until 1 Apr 2016**. Current Fellows and Elective Members may submit nominations electronically. Nominations and full supporting information are to be supplied by the nominators. The lists of current Fellows and Elective Members are available on the American Ornithology website (<http://americanornithology.org/content/aou-special-membership-classes>). Nominators seeking to endorse a nominee must first obtain the instructions and forms for 2016, available on the American Ornithology web site (<http://americanornithology.org/content/aou-special-membership-classes-nomination-guidelines>) or from the Secretary, ANDREW W. JONES (EM: ajones@cmnh.org). The Committee on Nomination of Fellows and Elective Members will prepare additional nominations. Fellows and Elective members who would like to put forward a name for consideration by the nomination committee should contact the chair, JACK DUMBACHER (EM: jdumbacher@calacademy.org), **by 31 Jan 2016**.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RAPTOR WORKSHOP: Accredited through University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point --Attend this 5-day introductory level field course designed to instruct students in a full-range of the latest field techniques used in the study of raptors. "Introduction to Raptor Field Techniques" will be held in Stevens Point, WI by Eugene Jacobs of the Linwood Springs Research Station. Summer Sessions: **6-10 June**, and **20-24 June 2016**. Fall Sessions: **3-7 Oct**, and **10-14 Oct, 2016**. Receive first-hand experience working with: live raptors, capturing, handling, banding techniques, broadcast call surveys, tree climbing, rappelling, blood sampling and more. Cost is \$475 and space is limited, so register early. For more information visit <http://raptorservices.rezgo.com>

CALIFORNIA CONDOR AC-4 RETURNS TO THE WILD AFTER 30 YEARS – On 7 Aug 1985, US Fish and Wildlife Service biologists captured 5-year-old male California condor AC-4 (Part of a trapping program which brought all California Condors in the wild into captivity between 1983 and 1987). AC-4 turned out to be integral to the recovery of the California condor population. He successfully sired 30 chicks that have been released into the wild population -- the third most productive sire in the program. He was also part of the pair that produced the first egg and first chick from wild birds in captivity in 1988. On 29 Dec 2015, 35-year-old AC-4, re-branded as California condor number 20, was released in the same area where he was captured, Bitter Creek National Wildlife Refuge in Kern County, California. He is one of four remaining condors of the original 22 birds brought into captivity in the 1980s. Condors can live to 60. "Watching this California condor, who has been so instrumental to recovery of his species, rejoin the wild flock, is an emotional and historic moment," says Joseph Brandt, our lead condor biologist. "It's like seeing him come full circle." Since 1992, when the Service began reintroducing captive-bred condors to the wild, the population has grown to about 420 birds, wild and captive combined.

MICROBEADS ON THE WAY OUT – In December 2015, both the U.S. House and Senate passed, and President Barack Obama signed the Microbead-Free Waters Act into law. These tiny plastic microbeads have appeared almost everywhere in hundreds of toiletries, facial scrubs, body washes, and toothpastes. Once these miniscule beads slip through North America's water treatment plants, they accumulate in rivers and the Great Lakes, then flow downstream toward the ocean. They apparently resemble fish food and are readily ingested by fish, as investigations in the Great Lakes have shown over the years. The microbeads have been known to absorb, or serve as transport vehicles for hitchhiking toxins. Plastic microbeads absorb persistent organic pollutants (e.g., pesticides, flame retardants, motor oil and more) and other industrial chemicals that move up the food chain when the toxic-coated beads are consumed by fish and other marine organisms. A single microbead can be up to a million times more toxic than the water around it. Ultimately fish-eating waterfowl, gulls, terns, cormorants, herons, kingfishers, Ospreys, and Bald Eagles become part of this food-chain. This Microbead-Free Waters Act bans the manufacture of microbeads starting in July 2017, followed by a ban on manufacturing over-the-counter drugs and on sales of cosmetics with microbeads to start in July 2018. A ban on sales of over-the-counter drugs containing microbeads would begin July 2019.

POSTDOCTORAL POSITIONS IN SPAIN – There are 225 two-year postdoc positions open in Spain for researchers that have completed their PhD in 2014-2015 (25000 euros/yr for salary), and another 225 positions for researchers that completed their PhD in 2011-2013 (29000 euros/yr for salary and additional 6000 euros for research costs). The program is called 'Juan de la Cierva', and candidates can apply for it in any Spanish university or research centre. The program is open to both Spanish and non-Spanish researchers. Selected candidates are expected to incorporate to the research centres within the six months after the publication of results, so likely in the second half of 2016, although later incorporations are possible if justified. Proposals can be submitted from the 13th of January to the **10th of February (in the case of PhD's completed in 2014-2015) and from the 11th of January to the 8th of February (in the case of PhD's completed in 2011-2013)**. The official call for proposals by the Spanish Government (in Spanish) can be seen at <https://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2015/12/07/pdfs/BOE-A-2015-13308.pdf>. All proposals must be prepared in collaboration with a Spanish researcher that acts as a supervisor. I am

seeking motivated candidates that are interested in the evolution of animal pigmentation to work with me at Doñana Biological Station in Seville. DR. ISMAEL GALVÁN, Departamento de Ecología Evolutiva, Estación Biológica de Doñana, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), C/ Américo Vespucio s/n, 41092 Sevilla, Spain. (PH: +34 954466700 Ext. 1380, EM: galvan@ebd.csic.es).

POSITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

The Positions and Opportunities section is available only in the on-line edition. It can be accessed at (<http://osnabirds.org/Jobs.aspx>). Submissions can be made any time and are posted free of charge. Members may post directly to the board after logging in to OSNA using their OSNA member log in. Non-members may submit announcements on-line and the announcements will be posted after approval by a moderator. If problems occur with online submission, please send your announcement to the Ornithological Newsletter Editor, Cheryl Trine (EM: citrine@andrews.edu) in the body of the email message.

E-LIST SERVICE is available. Subscribers to this list will receive the same announcements that appear on-line in a weekly/biweekly list. To subscribe, send the following message to: <lyris@cornell.edu>, in the body of the message type: join Birdjobs-L "your name". The subject line should be blank. Please use the "plain text only" e-mail format option, include your own name in the message, and put quotation marks around your name.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

FOR INFORMATION ON CONTINUING GRANTS PROGRAMS relevant to ornithological research, visit: <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/grants/index.html>. For other grant opportunities, visit: <http://ornithologyexchange.org/forums/forum/139-grants-awards/>

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

BIRDS AND ANIMALS OF AUSTRALIA'S TOP END: Darwin, Kakadu, Katherine, and Kununurra, Nick Leseberg and Iain Campbell, 2015. Princeton University Press. 272 pp., 6 x 9.5", 400 color photos, 2 maps. ISBN: 9780691161464 (Paperback, \$27.95) ISBN: 9781400866007 (eBook). The Top End stretches from the tropical city of Darwin in the north, to the savannas of Mataranka in the south, and southwest across the vast Victoria River escarpments to the Western Australian border. The region includes some of Australia's most popular and impressive tourist destinations. This book will vastly enhance your appreciation of the region's remarkable wildlife. It features hundreds of stunning color photographs, includes concise information on identification and preferred habitat for each species, provides a summary of each species' life history, including interesting habits, and suggestions on where to see it, offers valuable tips on searching for wildlife in the Top End.

BETTER BIRDING: Tips, Tools & Concepts for the Field, George Armistead and Brian Sullivan, 2015. Princeton University Press. 360 pp., 7 1/2 x 9 1/2, 850 color photos. 4 maps. ISBN: 9780691129662 (Paperback \$29.95 | £19.95). Better Birding reveals the techniques expert birders use to identify a wide array of bird species in the field—quickly and easily. Featuring hundreds of stunning photos and composite plates throughout, this book simplifies identification by organizing the birds you see into groupings and offering strategies specifically tailored to each group. Skill building focuses not just on traditional elements such as plumage, but also on creating a context around each bird, including habitat, behavior, and taxonomy—parts so integral to every bird's identity but often glossed over by typical field guides. Critical background information is provided for each group, enabling you to approach bird identification with a wide-angle view, using your eyes, brain, and binoculars more strategically, resulting in a more organized approach to learning birds.

PERSONAL EXCHANGES

FOR DONATION: I would like to donate to an educational or research institution approximately 50 years of complete runs of ornithological and wildlife periodicals with publication dates beginning in 1964. Shipping charges expected to be provided by the recipient, but this could be negotiable in special circumstances. The following periodicals are included: 1) *The Auk*, *Ornithological Newsletter*, and *Ornithological Monographs*, 2) *The Condor*, 3) *Journal of Field Ornithology*, 4) *The Wilson Journal of Ornithology*, 5) *The Journal of Wildlife Management*, *Wildlife Monographs*, *Wildlife Society Bulletin*, and *The Wildlifer*. Contact: PORTER B. REED JR. (EM: buckreed@mac.com, PH: 727-397-4720).

MEETINGS

A 'permanent' meeting list is maintained on BIRDNET (URL: <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/ornith/birdmeet.html>) showing planned ornithological meetings as far into the future as possible.

* in this section indicates new or revised entry

*SPECIES ON THE MOVE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, **9-12 Feb 2016**, Hobart, Tasmania, AU, an interdisciplinary conference in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia in February 2016 focusing on facilitating collaboration across disciplines on all aspects of species redistribution as a function of a changing climate. This conference will be relevant in the contexts of natural resource management, biodiversity management and conservation, and theoretical ecology. Species' responses to climate change is a rapidly evolving research field, however, much of our progress is being made in independent research areas: e.g. understanding the process vs responding to the implications, terrestrial vs marine ecosystems, global meta-analyses vs in depth species-specific approaches. To receive updates please register your interest at the website (<http://www.speciesonthemove.com>).

*SATELLITE CONFERENCE ON EGGS (BIRDS, REPTILES), **3 Jul 2016**, funded by the Society for Experimental Biology, to run the day before the Society for Experimental Biology's (SEB) Annual Main Meeting (AMM) in Brighton (UK) next year. This conference is being organized by Dr Steve Portugal (Royal Holloway, UK) & Prof Mark Hauber (Hunter College, USA). The Satellite Meeting aims to cover a range of topics, from physiology, behaviour and biotechnology, to biomimetics, parasitology and evolution. Confirmed speakers include Claire Spottiswoode (Cambridge), Charles Deeming (Lincoln), Caren Cooper (North Carolina Museum), Brani Igic (Akron), Wendy Reed (North Dakota) and David Booth (UQ). There is a poster session, and those submitting posters can also submit a lightning (Pecha Kucha) talk abstract, where the speaker has 3 minutes to present a poster oral abstract ahead of the poster session. More information can be found via the following website, http://www.sebiology.org/meetings/Egg_Satellite_2016/Egg_Satellite_2016.html, and the attached flyer. More details (inc registration fees) will follow shortly, and be available on the website. More information about the SEB AMM and Brighton, which runs for 5 days following the Egg Satellite Meeting, can be found at: http://www.sebiology.org/meetings/Brighton_2016/Brighton_2016.html. We hope you can join, and consider submitting an abstract for a talk.

*THE SIXTH NORTH AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGICAL CONFERENCE (NAOC VI), Washington, D.C., **16-21 Aug 2016**. The theme we have chosen is "Bringing Science and Conservation Together." It's an appropriate theme at an appropriate time for a conference in DC. Federal agencies and conservation partners are excited about the diverse community that will come together for this meeting. We hope to provide something of interest to a wide audience, from agency staff to young ornithologists from all over the globe. You'll not want to miss this meeting where we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (August, 1916), and lay out a science agenda for bird conservation for the next 100 years. We have an extraordinary line-up of pre-conference workshops, plenary speakers, and symposia. Oral Presentation Abstracts Due: **15 Apr 2016**. Poster Abstracts Due: **6 May 2016**. Early registration through **1 May 2016**. Visit us on the web (<http://naoc2016.cvent.com>) or on Facebook.

*6TH INTERNATIONAL ALBATROSS AND PETREL CONFERENCES (IAPC6), **19-23 Sep 2016**, at Paranimf de la Universitat de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain. Abstract Submission Deadline: **31 Mar 2016**. Early Bird Registration Deadline: **31 Mar 2016**. Website: <http://www.iapc6.info/>

THE 40TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WATERBIRD SOCIETY, New Bern, North Carolina, **20-23 Sep 2016**. Because the Waterbird Society is celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2016, we are planning a celebration of the first 40 years of the Society, complete with displays of the Society's early formative days, so please make plans to join us in New Bern. Meeting information, including details on the New Bern Riverfront Convention Center, field trips, accommodations, and special events is posted on the Waterbird Society web site (<http://www.waterbirds.org/>). Daily early morning and evening birding trips will be offered, as well as longer field trips on 24 and 25 September. Historical New Bern, a city of approximately 30,000 people, is located at the confluence of the Trent and Neuse rivers as they flow into the Pamlico Sound, bordered by the Outer Banks chain of barrier islands; it is a water wonderland! We look forward to seeing you in New Bern in 2016.

*RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION CONFERENCE, **16-20 Oct 2016**. New Jersey Audubon's Cape May Bird Observatory will host the annual conference in Cape May, New Jersey. The meeting will be held on the oceanfront at the Grand Hotel of Cape May. The 70th annual NJ Audubon Cape May Autumn Birding Festival will be held immediately following the RRF Conference, allowing conference attendees to take advantage of being in one of North America's top birding destinations during peak migration.

*5TH WORLD OWL CONFERENCE, **19-23 Oct 2016**. Conference will take place in Italy, where it was held in 2007 the last time. Save the date and start thinking about what kind of research you would like to present during the most rich and interesting convention about owls ever. Apart from the plenary convention session, the 5th World Owl Conference will take place in a location, Venau, that will give you the chance to attend many side events and owl-and-nature-themed initiatives. Soon we will give you all the technical information about travelling and overnight stay, and all the practical information about the scientific reports. Follow us on our official website, <http://www.woc2016.it> and on our official facebook page. The deeds of this important conference will be published in an elegant volume that will be released as a supplement to an important Italian ornithology magazine. The convention will take extra care of anyone who will come with you: families, friends, wives, children, etc. During the whole conference, special guided tours will be arranged to visit stunning Italian locations. An owl conference in Italy is also a unique chance to visit the most beautiful country in the World! For information you can write to (EM: info@woc2016.it). We are waiting for you in Italy! Organizing Committee, World Owl Conference 2016.

*QUAIL 8 – NATIONAL QUAIL SYMPOSIUM, **26-28 July 2017**, Knoxville, Tennessee, US. Sponsored by the University of Tennessee, Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency, National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative & National Bobwhite Technical Committee, Quail 8 is part of a series of quail symposia dating back to 1972, featuring management and research. For more information see, <http://www.quailcount.org/quail8/home.html>

*2017 JOINT MEETING AOU / COS and SCO/SOC, **31 July - 5 Aug, 2017**, Michigan State University, Lansing, Michigan. The American Ornithologists' Union, Cooper Ornithological Society, Society of Canadian Ornithologists will meet jointly at Michigan State University, Lansing, MI

*27TH INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS, **19 - 26 August 2018**, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The meeting venue is the Vancouver Convention Centre. Nominations for plenary speakers and proposals for symposia must be received on or before **1 May 2016**. For more information on the congress, visit the congress website, <http://www.iocongress2018.com>, or contact the Congress Convener, Dr. Robert (Bob) Elner by e-mail (rwelner@sfu.ca)

THE FLOCK - SPECIAL SECTION

To correct your address in the membership database please send the new information to the OSNA Business Office, 5400 Bosque Blvd., Suite 680, Waco, TX 76710 (EM: business@osnabirds.org, PH: 254-399-9636, FX: 254-776-3767) or change it yourself online (URL: <http://www.osnabirds.org>). To alert your colleagues of new address information, contact the *Ornithological Newsletter* Editor, CHERYL L. TRINE (EM: [ctrine AT andrews.edu](mailto:ctrine@andrews.edu)).

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THE MOST RECENT NUMBERS of the Society journals and the month of mailing are: *Auk*, 2015, Vol. 132, #4 (Sep); *Condor*, 2015, Vol. 117, #4 (Nov), *J. Field Ornith.*, 2015, Vol. 86, #4 (Dec), *Raptor Res.*, 2015, Vol. 49, #4 (Dec), *Waterbirds*, 2015, Vol. 38, #4 (Dec), *Wilson J. Ornith.*, 2015, Vol. 127, #3 (Sep). Numbers follow at about 3-month intervals. If you are missing an issue, please contact OSNA. New members receive the first issue of the volume year. Please check your address label to confirm membership information and address.

THE NEXT NEWSLETTER will be issued in April. Items you wish to have included must reach the Editor, CHERYL L. TRINE, 3889 E. Valley View, Berrien Springs, MI 49103 (PH: 269-471-7886; EM: [ctrine AT andrews .edu](mailto:ctrine@andrews.edu)), **by 1 March 2016**. Please submit announcements by email (in the body of the email message--not an attached file). Items sent to the OSNA office may not reach the Editor in time. Items with deadline dates should be submitted at least four months in advance of that date to allow time for response.