

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 196

JUNE 2010

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/>

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 24 Mar 2011**. Officers will be elected by electronic and postal ballot prior to the meeting, and the new officers will be announced at the Business Meeting of Members. Officers to be elected will be Secretary, Treasurer, four Elective Councilors (three-year terms) and one Elective Councilor (one-year term). At the conclusion of the 129th Stated Meeting, John R. Faaborg will begin his second year as President, and Susan M. Haig will begin her second year as President-Elect. The Bylaws of the AOU require that the Secretary and Treasurer be elected or re-elected annually. The incumbent Secretary (Sara R. Morris) and Treasurer (James Herkert) 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 ending their terms at the conclusion of the 129th Stated Meeting in 2011 are Bonnie S. Bowen, Mary Bomberger Brown, Janis L. Dickinson, Rebecca L. Holberton, and Amanda D. Rodewald. Continuing to serve in 2011-2012 will be Elective Councilors Peter Arcese, Ronald L. Mumme, Jennifer C. Owen, J. Michael Reed, Ernesto Ruelas Inzunza, Brett K. Sandercock, and Michael S. Webster. 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 in writing, or electronically to the Secretary, SARA R. MORRIS, Department of Biology, Canisius College, 2001 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14208 USA (PH: 716-888-2567, FX: 716-888-3157, EM: aousecretary@aou.org).

NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP CLASSES OF Fellow and Elective Member of the AOU are **due 11 Mar 2011**. Fellows and Elective Members are encouraged to submit nominations of deserving colleagues. Nominations and full supporting information are to be supplied by the nominators. Lists of current Fellows and Elective Members are available on the AOU website (<http://www.aou.org/membership/special.php3>). Nominators seeking to endorse a nominee must first obtain the instructions and forms for 2011, available on the AOU web site (URL:

<http://www.aou.org/nominations.php3>) or from the Secretary, SARA R. MORRIS, Department of Biology, Canisius College, 2001 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14208 USA (PH: 716 888 2567, FX: 716-888-3157, EM: aousecretary@aou.org). For ELECTIVE MEMBER nominations, the Secretary will compile and prepare ballot packets to be sent to current Fellows and Elective Members in April 2011. Ballots must be returned by mail to the Secretariat by three weeks before the Stated Meeting (i.e., by 5 July 2011) and the names will be announced at the Business Meeting of Members in San Diego, CA. For FELLOW nominations, the Secretary will compile and prepare packets to be sent to current Fellows in May 2011. Voting will take place at the Fellows Meeting on the first evening of the Jacksonville meeting in July.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRAVELERS TO THE IOC IN BRAZIL— US and Canadian travelers will need a visa issued by the consular district in which they reside. Information on these districts can be found at: http://www.consbras.toronto.org/visa_tourist.php or <http://www.brazilhouston.org/ingles/jurisdic.htm>. Be advised that the visa process is never instantaneous and, at least in the US, will require either a personal trip to the consulate or hiring a visa agent.

RECOMMENDED READING: Ornithologists might benefit from reading an article in *Journal of Mammalogy*. The last issue [vol. 91(2):285-292] had an article "Talking the talk: giving oral presentations about mammals for colleagues and general audiences" by R. Mark Brigham that anyone giving an oral paper at a meeting might benefit from. This is the written version of his talk at the last Mammal Society meeting when he received the Grinnell Award for Excellence in Education.

DISTANCE SAMPLING WORKSHOPS—The Centre for Research into Ecological and Environmental Modelling (CREEM) is hosting two linked workshops in the summer of 2010 in our purpose-built facilities at the **University of St Andrews, Scotland**. The aim of these workshops is to train participants in the latest methods for design and analysis of distance sampling surveys, including line and point transects. The workshops are taught by leading researchers in the field, using industry-standard software. The first workshop (**24-27 Aug**) will run at an introductory level, and will focus on "conventional" distance sampling methods, as described in the standard reference book "Introduction to Distance Sampling." The workshop will be a blend of theory and practice and participants will learn how to use the program "Distance." Participants will gain a solid grounding in both survey design and methods of analysis for distance sampling surveys. The advanced distance sampling workshop (**30 Aug - 1 Sep**) will include advanced treatments of incorporating covariates in detection function modelling, analyses in which detectability on the transect line is not assumed to be perfect (the so-called g(0) problem), automated survey design, advanced stratified survey analysis, advanced trend analysis, and adaptive survey designs. The aim of this workshop is to bring participants up to date with the latest developments in distance sampling methods and software. It is also an opportunity for those actively engaged in the design, analysis and execution of distance sampling surveys to discuss common issues and problems, and set future research directions. The workshop will be a combination of lectures and computer sessions, with considerable time for discussion. For both workshops, participants are encouraged to bring their own data sets, and can expect to do some preliminary analyses with their data. Computer sessions take place in our modern computer classroom (attached to the seminar room); participants can use our computers or bring their own laptop computers. Additional details regarding the workshop can be found at our website (URL: http://www.ruwpa.st-and.ac.uk/distance.workshops/distance2010/workshop_overview.html).

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 \$3.50 for the cost of publication. Separate subscriptions are not available. For application to membership write the OSNA office. Periodicals postage paid at Waco, TX.

POSTMASTER: Send address change to ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWSLETTER, 5400 Bosque Blvd., Suite 680, Waco, TX 76710.

WORLD'S RAREST BIRDS PHOTO COMPETITION is now online at (URL: <http://www.theworldsrarestbirds.com>) with plenty of exciting prizes to be won. Photos of 623 species, all presented in a list on the website, are eligible to take part in the competition and many will be used in *The World's Rarest Birds* which will be published in the first half of 2011. Published photographers, of course, receive a free copy of the book. The submitted photographs will play an important role in increasing awareness for these rarest birds of the world. *The World's Rarest Birds* has evolved from *Rare Birds Yearbook* and will be produced by WILDGuides, a not-for-profit publisher and, as with *Rare Birds Yearbook*, proceeds from sales will be donated to BirdLife International's Preventing Extinctions Programme. The facelift will see the publication becoming a hardback and expanding to cover the 362 species categorized as Endangered as well as the world's 192 Critically Endangered species. If you are on Facebook, please join the group Critically Endangered birds and/or become a fan of The World's Rarest Birds. For more information on *The World's Rarest Birds*, please contact the editorial team: ERIK HIRSCHFELD (EM: editor@theworldsrarest.com) or ANDY SWASH (EM: andy_swash@wildguides.co.uk).

RAPTOR WORKSHOPS: Accredited through University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point. A 5-day workshop entitled "Introduction to Raptor Field Techniques" will be held in Stevens Point, WI by Eugene Jacobs of the Linwood Springs Research Station and Loren Ayers of the Wis. Dept. of Natural Resources. Receive first hand experience working with live raptors while you develop skills in capturing, handling, banding techniques, tree climbing and rappelling, blood extractions, habitat sampling and more. We are offering two, five-day Raptor Workshops, this summer, "Introduction to Raptor Field Techniques", which can be taken for credit through UW- Stevens Point. Session #1: **7-11 Jun 2010** and Session #2: **21-25 Jun 2010**. Three sessions are planned for the Fall: **23-27 Aug, 13-17 Sep, and 4-8 Oct 2010**. Cost is \$425 and space is limited, so register early. Visit (URL: <http://www.RaptorResearch.com>) for details, and be sure to view our workshop video.

THE 34TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WATERBIRD SOCIETY-CALL FOR SYMPOSIA, SPECIAL PAPER SESSIONS AND WORKSHOPS. The meeting will be held in Grand Island, Nebraska from **13-16 Mar 2011** and will be held jointly with the North American Crane Working Group. The Platte River and nearby wetlands in mid-March provide staging habitat for nearly 10 million waterfowl and half a million Sandhill Cranes-a phenomenon of global significance. Due to its use by large numbers of migrating shorebirds, the area also is designated a Landscape of International Importance by the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network. Members and prospective attendees are invited to participate in the development of the scientific program by submitting proposals to organize symposia, sessions and workshops. Potential general topics include: 1) mid-continental waterbird research, conservation and management-including staging behavior/ecology, migration and geospatial population linkages, prairie wetlands, energy infrastructure and avian impacts, 2) integrative sessions that identify synergies between crane research/management and other waterbird taxonomic groups, and 3) emerging topics in waterbird science. Proposals should include 1-2 paragraph summary including rationale, and list of proposed speakers and presentation titles, and should be sent to the Scientific Program Chair (EM: katharineparsons@gmail.com) by **15 Jul 2010**. Additional information on the meeting can be found at the websites of the Waterbird Society (URL: http://www.waterbirds.org/annual_meeting) and North American Crane Working Group (URL: <http://www.nacwg.org/>).

NEWS FROM THE ORNITHOLOGICAL COUNCIL

Provided by the Ornithological Council. Major funding for the Ornithological Council is provided by its eleven member societies: American Ornithologists' Union, Association of Field Ornithologists, CIPAMEX, Cooper Ornithological Society, Neotropical Ornithological Society, Pacific Seabird Group, Raptor Research Foundation, Society of Canadian Ornithologists, Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds, Waterbird Society, and Wilson Ornithological Society. We also appreciate the support of individual ornithologists; contributions can be made when you renew your membership in any of

the OSNA societies (on paper or online: URL: <http://www.osnabirds.org/>) or via paypal on the BIRDNET homepage (URL: <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET>). Thank you for helping the Ornithological Council in its efforts to keep the world safe for ornithology!

FEDERAL AGENCIES SIGN AGREEMENT TO STRENGTHEN COORDINATION FOR MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION – The U.S. Fish Wildlife Service on 12 Apr entered into Memoranda of Understandings (MOUs) with National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management. These MOUs meet the requirements under section 3 of Executive Order 13186, signed by then-President Bill Clinton in 2001 concerning the responsibilities of federal agencies to protect migratory birds. That Executive Order directs executive departments and agencies to take certain actions to further implement the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). The MOUs identify specific ways the agencies can cooperate to substantially contribute to the conservation and management of migratory birds and their habitats. The (MOUs) are designed to strengthen coordination for migratory bird conservation by identifying and implementing strategies to complement and support existing efforts, and facilitate new collaborative migratory bird conservation partnerships and comprehensive planning strategies for migratory birds. "This agreement will help us conduct landscape-level planning and develop additional conservation measures to benefit migratory bird species across public and private lands," said USFWS Acting Director Rowan Gould. "The conservation of birds will help sustain ecological integrity and ecosystem services, including insect control, pollination, and seed dispersal. Migratory bird conservation also meets the growing public demand, and need, for outdoor education and recreation." "This cooperative agreement provides a tremendous opportunity for our agencies to unite our efforts to more effectively protect migratory birds," said National Park Service chief Jon Jarvis. "Migratory birds are an important and fragile resource of our planet and what we have done here today is just the first step in this combined effort to strengthen migratory bird conservation." "Addressing the conservation needs of migratory birds on public lands is crucial to many species," said Bureau of Land Management Director Bob Abbey. "We're pleased to work closely with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to restore and enhance critical habitat and improve conservation through public education." Potential areas of collaboration include: implementing studies on migratory bird species that may be potentially affected by agency actions; developing conservation measures and best management practices; developing and providing ongoing support for educational programs such as International Migratory Bird Day; and promoting and providing training, sharing information, and integrating migratory bird conservation principles and practices across agencies.

SAGE GROUSE FINDS FRIEND IN AGRICULTURE; ADMITTED TO WAITING LIST BY USFWS – In March, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced that, based on accumulated scientific data and new peer-reviewed information and analysis, the Greater Sage-grouse warrants the protection of the Endangered Species Act. However, the service determined that adding the species to the federal list of threatened and endangered species at this time is precluded by the need to address higher priority species first. As a result, the Greater Sage-grouse will be placed on the list of candidate species and will be proposed for protection under the Act as funding and priorities dictate. The finding is good news for the wind energy and oil and gas industries, which will still face scrutiny in grouse habitat but will have more leeway than if the bird were listed. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar said in a news release that listing is warranted but precluded by higher priorities - other species that are in greater danger. "The sage grouse's decline reflects the extent to which open land in the West has been developed in the last century," Salazar said in a release. "This development has provided important benefits, but we must find common sense ways of protecting, restoring, and reconnecting the Western lands that are most important to the species' survival." Voluntary conservation combined with federal funding and technical help can help those efforts, he said. The sage grouse finding results from a lawsuit filed in 2006 by an Idaho group, Western Watersheds Project. A federal judge in Boise, Idaho, ruled in 2007 that political pressure tainted an earlier decision not to list the sage grouse. Shortly after Salazar's announcement, the Center for Biological Diversity served notice that it plans to file suit.

Also in March, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack announced a new initiative to protect sage-grouse population and habitat using two popular USDA conservation programs—Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP). USDA will provide up to \$16 million this fiscal year to provide financial assistance for producers to reduce threats to the birds such as disease and invasive species and improve sage-grouse habitat. Producers can sign up through April 23 to participate in the first round of rankings for this initiative. In April, Vilsack and Interior Secretary Ken Salazar announced a far-reaching agreement to support the conservation of Greater Sage-grouse and sagebrush ecosystems in parts of 11 Western states. USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service Chief Dave White and Rowan Gould, acting director of Interior's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, signed the partnership agreement to promote and preserve greater sage-grouse habitat and sagebrush ecosystems. The agreement ensures beneficial and consistent actions for conservation of greater sage-grouse habitat and provides a collaborative framework for states and private landowners. For its part, the Fish and Wildlife Service is committing to work with NRCS to use the authorities of the Endangered Species Act to provide participating landowners with reasonable assurances that their activities will be consistent with the act should the sage-grouse later be listed as a threatened or endangered species.

FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMPLETES WORK ON WIND TURBINES AND IMPACT ON WILDLIFE - The 22-member Wind Turbine Guidelines Federal Advisory Committee has reached consensus on a set of draft recommendations aimed at minimizing the impacts of land-based wind farms on wildlife and its habitat. The group was created in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act and represents varied interests associated with wind energy development as well as wildlife management professionals. Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar will now review the recommendations and take them under advisement as he asks the Service to develop guidelines for evaluating wind energy development on public and private lands. Even if adopted by Salazar in full, the recommendations will not have force of law. They will simply join the growing number of guidelines issued by various states and bird and bat conservation organizations, though it is certainly possible, if not likely, that the state and local authorities that approve the siting of wind turbine facilities will consider federal guidelines to be influential. Other federal agencies that manage public lands are also likely to heed these guidelines. Highlights of the committee's recommendations include: A decision-making framework that guides all stages of wind energy development; reliance on the best available science when assessing renewable energy projects and their potential environmental impact; and use of landscape-scaled planning that recognizes the need to think long-term about protecting our nation's economic and natural resources. Michael Bean, Counselor to Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks. "The Committee's recommendations will help us reach science-based decisions for future wind energy projects, while minimizing and mitigating local and regional impacts to wildlife." However, the rate of build-out of wind energy facilities has been rapid and has outpaced research. Despite a recession-related slow-down in building and lengthy permitting processes in some cases (such as the nine-year debate that culminated in May with the approval of a large wind facility in Nantucket Sound), wind is likely to continue to develop at a very fast rate, while the limited research underway – most of it site-specific – continues to lag. A complete list of committee members and their affiliations, as well as the current draft consensus version and other information on the committee's activities, is available online at: http://www.fws.gov/habitatconservation/windpower/wind_turbine_advisory_committee.html

POSITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

The Positions and Opportunities section is available only in the on-line edition. This information can be accessed from the Ornithological Newsletter Home Page <<http://www.osnabirds.org/on>>, or directly at <<http://www.osnabirds.org/on/ornjobs.htm>>. Submissions can be made any time, and are posted free of charge. Please send submissions to Ornithological Newsletter Editor, Cheryl Trine, (EM: citrine@andrews.edu).

AN E-LIST SERVICE is available. Subscribers to this list will receive the same new announcements that appear on-line. E-list members often receive these announcements before they are posted on-line. 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>

SEEKING PUBLICATION NOMINATIONS FOR THE KATMA AWARD—The Cooper Ornithological Society established the Katma Award in 2003 with the sponsorship of the late Robert W. Storer. It seeks to recognize papers proposing ideas or testing theories that replace current dogma, or settled opinion, that could change the course of thinking about the biology of birds. Papers may also include those that propose a largely untested idea, or those that develop and advance it. The award may be given to research articles, short communications, or commentaries (e.g., editorials, reviews) of any length published in any scientific venue. Papers with one or two authors will be preferred; those with more authors must specify the contribution of each. See *Condor* 105:843 and http://www.cooper.org/awards_and_grants/awards_and_grants.htm for additional information about the award. To submit a nomination, send an email with a pdf of the paper or series of papers and a 1-2 page letter describing how the nomination fits the qualifications outlined above to the Katma Awards Committee Chair, STEVE BEISSINGER (EM: beis@berkeley.edu), **by 1 Jul 2010**.

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

EARLY TASMANIAN ORNITHOLOGY: The Correspondence of Ronald Campbell Gunn and James Grant 1836-1838. William E. Davis, Jr., editor. Nuttall Ornithological Club Memoir No. 16, Cambridge, Massachusetts. 2009: 263 pp., frontispiece, 30 figures, 2 appendices. ISBN 1-877973-47-5. \$37.50 (cloth). This correspondence is the earliest attempt to identify and taxonomically arrange the birds of Tasmania and is some of the earliest avian taxonomic work by residents of Australia. It illustrates the difficulties implicit in taxonomic work in a pre-Darwinian era. Copies of this book may be purchased from the Nuttall Ornithological Club, c/o Bird Department, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138. Postage and handling are included within the contiguous 48 states. For inquires and more information, call the Bird Department (PH: 607-495-2471), or visit the NOC website (URL: <http://www.nuttallclub.org>).

DO HUMMINGBIRDS HUM? Fascinating Answers to Questions about Hummingbirds, George C. West & Carol A. Butler, 2010. Rutgers University Press. 208 pp., 34 color and 16 b&w photographs, 5 ½ x 8 ½. ISBN: 978-0-8135-4738-1 (Paper: \$21.95). In this book, George West, who has studied and banded over 13,500 hummingbirds in Arizona, and Carol Butler provide an overview of hummingbird biology for the general reader, and more detailed discussions of their morphology and behavior for those who want to fly beyond the basics. This question and answer guide offers readers a wide range of information about these glorious pollinators as well as tips for attracting, photographing, and observing hummingbirds in the wild or in captivity. (URL: <http://rutgerspress.rutgers.edu>)

BIRDS OF EUROPE, 2ND ED., Lars Svensson, Killian Mullarney and Dan Zetterström, 2009. Princeton University Press. 416 pp., 3500+ color illustrations, 848 maps, 5 x 7. ISBN: 978-0-691-14392-7 (Paper, \$29.95). The new edition of this popular field guide features sixteen extra pages as well as new artwork, extensive text revisions that incorporate the latest identification knowledge, and updated maps. This edition covers all 772 species found in the region as well as 32 introduced species or variants and 118 very rare visitors. (URL: <http://press.princeton.edu/birds/>).

MOMENTS OF DISCOVERY: Natural History Narratives from Mexico and Central America, Kevin Winker, ed., 2010. University of Florida Press. 384 pp., 50 b/w illustrations, 6.125 x 9.25. ISBN: 978-0-8130-3417-1 (Hardcover, \$75.00). Throughout the twentieth century, pioneering biological field work was conducted from Mexico through Panama by such giants as Miguel Alvarez del Toro, Charles Sibley, John T. Emlen Jr., and many others. But the written reports and scientific papers detailing their discoveries leave out the adventure, sense of discovery, and unexpected humor of their time in the field. This volume collects 20 autobiographical descriptions of the incongruous situations, captivating people and places, and the inevitable trials and tribulations that surround some of the greatest biological discoveries in Mexico and Central America from the 1930's through the 1990's. A significant contribution to the history of biological exploration, this book is a must-read for anyone considering biological field work in the region—or the amateur, armchair fieldworker who wonders what those trips were *really* like. To order direct, call 1-800-226-3822, or visit us (URL: <http://www.upf.com>).

ALL ABOUT BIRDS: A Short History of Ornithology, Valérie Chansigaud, 2010. Princeton University Press. 240 pp., 250 color illus., 6 x 9. ISBN: 978-0-691-14519-8 (Cloth, \$29.95). This richly illustrated book tells the fascinating story of ornithology from ancient times to the present. Filled throughout with paintings, drawings, photographs, and diagrams, *All About Birds* is a fast-paced chronological account of the personalities and milestones that have shaped this most popular of sciences—from Aristotle, Audubon, and Darwin to Peterson and Sibley. These key figures are also documented in a unique twenty-page illustrated color timeline at the end of the book. Brief individual chapters cover antiquity, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, and the seventeenth through twentieth centuries. (URL: <http://press.princeton.edu/birds/>)

PERSONAL EXCHANGES

AVAILABLE: *The Auk*: Complete run from Vol 104-127(1) (1987-2010). Free for non-profit institutions if shipping covered. For sale to private collectors. EM: Mhunter@maine.edu

MEETINGS

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

LOOKING FOR THE WEB SITE of an ornithological meeting or conference? Visit <http://www.birdmeetings.org> to find links and to post a link to your meeting.

* in this section indicates new or revised entry

THE ASSOCIATION OF FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS ANNUAL MEETING, Ogden, Utah, **12 – 14 Aug 2010**. The meeting will be hosted by Weber State University, which is situated between the spectacular Wasatch Range of the Rocky Mountains to the east and the Great Salt Lake to the west. The conference will feature two days of contributed scientific papers, posters, and symposia. Field trips will take place before and after the meetings showcasing western specialties from alpine tundra to desert canyons. Birding in northern Utah this time of year will be impressive. In fact, Great Salt Lake was listed by Audubon Magazine as one of six "Best Fall Migration Hotspots"! Fall shorebird migration will be well underway during the meeting. The AFO encourages ornithologists to use this meeting as a jumping off point to explore the American West. Utah boasts five national parks, more than any other state in the lower 48, as well as eight national monuments and 48 state parks. In addition, Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks are just a (gorgeous) day's drive away. Participants, their families and guests will find a community teeming with fun activities, beautiful mountain vistas and sites of both biological and historical significance. Ogden was listed by Sunset Magazine as the city with the "Best Access to the Outdoors." The landscape is spectacular and provides plenty of activities for the extreme enthusiast or someone just looking for a nice

walk. This meeting also promises to be one of the most affordable ornithological meetings in years. Salt Lake City is just 30 miles away, and is a major hub for Delta Airlines resulting in relatively low airfare. Low-cost dorm rooms will be also available. For further information, visit the conference website (URL: <http://conferences.weber.edu/AFO2010/>) or contact the Local Committee Chair, JOHN CAVITT (EM: jcavitt@weber.edu).

25TH INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS 2010 (**22-28 Aug 2010**) Campos do Jordão, Brazil. We hope that you will circle these dates on your calendar and plan to attend! For further information, please visit our web page (URL: <http://www.i-o-c.org> or <http://www.acquaviva.com.br/siscone/index.asp?Codigo=26>), or contact PROF. DR. CRISTINA YUMI MIYAKI, Secretary-General of the 25th IOC (EM: ioc2010@ib.usp.br).

*THE 1ST WORLD SEABIRD CONFERENCE (URL: <http://www.worldseabirdconference.com/>) received an outstanding response to the Call for Abstracts - thank you to all submitters! From over 700 submissions, the Scientific Program Committee has developed an excellent conference program including *A strong symposia on climate change and conservation at sea and on colonies; *A wide array of special papers sessions including advances in seabird research, demographics, and longterm monitoring; *Contributed sessions including breeding biology, physiology, and conservation. All submitters have now been notified of the Scientific Program Committee's decisions. If your submission has been accepted, please ensure that you confirm your acceptance via email (EM: worldseabird@gmail.com) **by 31 May**. Presenters, please register for the conference at your earliest convenience (URL: <http://www.confmanager.com/main.cfm?cid=1813&nid=12711>). To obtain maximum savings, register before the Early Bird **Deadline of 31 May 2010!** Please stay tuned for a Conference Program-at-a-Glance. The Travel Awards Committee is in the process of reviewing all applications. Applicants will be notified of award decisions by 21 May 2010. Conference Information (URL: <http://www.confmanager.com/main.cfm?cid=1813&nid=12711>). Register now to obtain maximum savings (URL: <http://www.confmanager.com/main.cfm?cid=1813&nid=12707>). Book your accommodations at the official headquarter hotel, the Fairmont Empress (URL: <http://www.onfmanager.com/main.cfm?cid=1813&nid=13405>). Become a sponsor (URL: <https://www.confmanager.com/main.cfm?cid=1813&nid=14011>). Become an exhibitor (URL: <http://www.confmanager.com/main.cfm?cid=1813&nid=1270>). Donate now (URL: <https://www.confmanager.com/main.cfm?cid=1813&tid=90>). Tell your colleagues. See you in September!

2010 RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION CONFERENCE, Fort Collins, Colorado, **22-26 Sep 2010**. The Rocky Mountain Raptor Program, a nonprofit organization that provides raptor rehabilitation and environmental education, will co-host the conference with EDM International, Inc., leaders in avian-related issues. The conference will be highlighted by symposia on Raptor-Human Conflicts, Raptors and Energy Development, Raptor Diseases, Raptor Banding and Research, and Raptors in Education. The conference will be held at the Fort Collins Marriott Hotel with room rates at \$102/night. For more information, contact JUDY SCHERPELZ, (PH: 970-484-7756 or EM: judy@rmrp.org). Watch for additional information on the conference at the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program website: (URL: <http://www.rmrp.org>).

*WBBA TO MEET ON SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RANCH—The Western Bird Banding Association will meet at the peak of landbird migration for their 2010 annual meeting at the lovely Starr Ranch Bird Observatory, **30 Sep – 3 Oct 2010**. SRBO is within the Starr Ranch Sanctuary (URL: <http://www.starranch.org/>), a 4,000-acre National Audubon Society preserve in the foothills of the of the Santa Ana Mountains, in the mild and semiarid Mediterranean climate of southeastern Orange County, approximately **60 miles southeast of Los Angeles**. The meeting is not to be missed, and will have exciting demonstrations and workshops of banding, data management, and analysis of banding data. Located at a long-running banding station in a riparian corridor amongst the unique California coastal sage scrub, the historic ranch boasts an old orange grove, offers shady trees for camping and some limited bunk space, as well as outdoor cooking facilities and nearby motels. Paper and poster presentations can reflect original research, summarize existing information, or address the use

of banding as a tool in avian research and monitoring. Mist nets will be operated for the first time at Starr Ranch during fall migration. An NABC certification for banders and trainers is also planned. Please submit abstracts for papers or workshops electronically by **15 Aug** to C. J. RALPH (EM: cjr2@humboldt.edu), specifying workshop, paper, or poster. For additional information on abstract submission and about WBBA's 2010 meeting, please visit the WBBA website (URL: <http://www.westernbirdbanding.org/next-meetings.html>), or contact C.J. (PH: 707 499-9707).

THE SWAN SPECIALIST GROUP of WETLANDS INTERNATIONAL will hold its 5th International Swan Symposium at Universidad Austral de Chile, Valdivia, Chile, **1-5 Nov 2010**. The meeting, co-hosted by Universidad Austral de Chile will take place on the University campus. Dr. Roberto Schlatter, Universidad Austral, is the Chair of the Committee on Local Arrangements and the Local Host. The symposium will feature four days of contributed scientific papers, posters, invited speakers, and symposia and workshops; evening events; and field trips during and after the symposium, showcasing the Rio Cruces region and its Black-necked Swans and other wetland avifauna. In addition, workshops will be held on avian influenza and other contagious diseases and their impact on swan ecology and management; management of special swan preserves and supplemental feeding; managing introduced swan populations; hybridization in wild swan populations; hunting swans; restoration of swans to former habitats; habitat requirements for captive swans; and physical marking and radio-tagging swans. Accommodations in Valdivia will include hotels near the Universidad Austral de Chile campus. Rooms will cost \$62 to \$122 USD. The meeting's location will provide easy access to the historical and cultural attractions of Valdivia. For additional information, contact: DR. ROBERTO SCHLATTER (EM: rschlatt@uach.cl, PH: 56 63 221408), DR. JOHN O. ALBERTSON (EM: swanspecialistgroup@gmail.com), or CARL D. MITCHELL (EM: carl_mitchell@fws.gov, PH: 0 11 208 574 2755). You may also visit the conference web site at <http://www.wetlands.org/Aboutus/Specialistgroups/SwanSpecialistGroup/tabid/198/Default.aspx>.

GYRFALCONS AND PTARMIGAN IN A CHANGING WORLD, an international conference convened by The Peregrine Fund, Boise State University, and the U.S. Geological Survey from **1-3 Feb 2011**, in Boise, Idaho, U.S.A. We invite scientists, land managers, policy analysts, and other conservationists from around the world to explore evidence for a range of environmental changes (climate, contaminants, disease, development) in arctic ecosystems with a focus on the Gyrfalcon and its principal prey, ptarmigan, as models of predator-prey relationships. The conference aims to predict effects and outcomes of global climate change on arctic predators and prey, identify areas of uncertainty, and develop global strategies for measuring and mitigating them. The proceedings will be published in what we expect will be a landmark publication of information, ideas, and strategies. For details please visit (URL: http://www.peregrinefund.org/gyr_conference/ or contact us at tpf@peregrinefund.org).

81ST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COOPER ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY will be held in conjunction with the annual meetings of the Wilson Ornithological Society and the Association of Field Ornithologists, from **9-13 Mar 2011**, at the Holiday Inn in Kearney, Nebraska, to coincide with the northward migration of Sandhill Cranes. MARY BOMBERGER BROWN, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, is the local host.

*THE THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WATERBIRD SOCIETY will be held in **Grand Island, Nebraska**, from **13 -16 Mar 2011** (Sunday to Wednesday) and will be held jointly with the North American Crane Working Group. This meeting will constitute the annual meeting for the 2010 calendar year, and will include presentations of research papers, symposia, workshops, social events and area field trips. The Platte River and nearby wetlands in mid-March provide staging habitat for nearly 10 million waterfowl and half a million Sandhill Cranes—a phenomenon of global significance. Due to its use by large numbers of migrating shorebirds, the area also is designated a Landscape of International Importance by the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network. Information about the meeting will be posted at the websites of the Waterbird Society (URL: http://www.waterbirds.org/annual_meeting) and the North American Crane Working

Group (URL: <http://www.nacwg.org/>). Contacts for the meeting are: FELIPE CHAVEZ-RAMIREZ, Local Committee Chair (EM: fchavez@whoopingcrane.org) and KATHARINE PARSONS, Scientific Program Chair (EM: katharineparsons@gmail.com).

THE 129TH STATED MEETING OF THE AOU will be held in Jacksonville, FL, **26-29 Jul 2011**.

IXTH NEOTROPICAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS and VIIITH NATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS. Cusco, Peru (**8-14 Nov 2011**). The Neotropical Ornithological Society (NOS) and the Peruvian Ornithological Union (UNOP) are pleased to announce the IXTH Neotropical Ornithological Congress and VIIITH National Ornithological Congress to be held in the city of Cusco, Peru. The scientific program will include plenary lectures, symposia sessions, oral and poster presentations, and round table discussions. The congress officers are: the Secretary General, GRACE P. SERVAT (EM: grace.servat@gmail.com) and the Chair of Local Committee, CONSTANTINO AUCCA (EM: caucca@ecoanperu.org), in cooperation with the Neotropical Ornithological Society and the Peruvian Ornithological Union. Further information regarding the IXTH NOC and VIIITH CNO will be announced in the web page of the Neotropical Ornithological Society (URL: <http://www.neotropicalornithology.org>).

NEWS OF MEMBERS

RICHARD G B BROWN, an Elective Member of the AOU since 1978, died 26 Mar 2010 at age 74. Brown served with the Canadian Wildlife Service at the Bedford Institute of Oceanology. His publications that included *Atlas of Eastern Canadian Seabirds* (1975), *Gazetteer of Marine Birds in Atlantic Canada: an atlas of seabird vulnerability to oil pollution* (1994), *The Story of the Iceberg that Sank the Titanic* (1983), and numerous articles in *Canadian Naturalist*, earned him the "Lifetime Achievement Award" of the Pacific Island Seabird Group.

JÜRGEN HAFFER, AOU member since 1969 and Honorary Fellow since 1989, COS member since 1967, and WOS member since 1969, died in April 2010. He received a PhD degree at the University of Göttingen, and became an exploration geologist. As a result of his studies of Amazonian avifauna, he wrote many papers on neotropical avifauna and developed the refugia hypothesis to explain the rapid diversification of neotropical fauna in geologically recent times. He published the first book-length biography on Ernst Mayr and co-published a biography of Erwin Stresemann, Mayr's teacher and friend. In 1975, he was awarded the William Brewster Memorial Award by the AOU.

CARL D. MARTI, age 65, died at his home in Boise, Idaho, on 12 Apr 2010, some five months after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Carl has been of member of the AOU since 1968, became an Elective member in 1985, and a Fellow in 2006. He was also a member of both COS and WOS since 1968, and RRF since 1997. He was a recipient of the RRF's Fran and Frederick Hamerstrom Award in 2009, and became an Honorary Member of the COS earlier this year. He was a Professor of Zoology at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah, for many years before retiring to Boise. Carl was well known for his long-term work on Barn Owls and his studies of raptor feeding ecology. During his productive research career he also served as the Editor of *Journal of Raptor Research and Studies in Avian Biology*, Book Review Editor for *The Auk*, and Web master for the COS and RRF.

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@andrews.edu).

**ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETIES
OF NORTH AMERICA**

5400 Bosque Blvd.
Suite 680, Waco, TX 76710

Address Service Requested

Periodicals Postage

Paid at
Waco, Texas

THE MOST RECENT NUMBERS of the Society journals and the month of mailing are *Auk*, 2010, Vol. 127, #2 (Apr); *Condor*, 2010, Vol. 112, #1 (Mar); *J. Field Ornith.*, 2010, Vol. 81, #1 (Mar); *Raptor Res.*, 2010, Vol. 44, #1 (Mar); *Waterbirds*, 2010, Vol. 33, #2 (May); *Wilson J. Ornith.*, 201-, Vol. 122, #2 (May). 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 August. 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), **by 1 July 2010**. Submission by email (in the body of the email message--not an attached file) or on diskette (PC format: Word-Perfect or ASCII) with hard copy; e-mail preferred. 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.