

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 236

FEBRUARY 2017

ORGANIZATION NEWS

THE ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWSLETTER ON-LINE can be found on the OSNA Member Portal <https://customer265664c9b.portal.membersuite.com>. Click on the tab for Newsletters. You do not need to log in to read the Newsletters.

OSNA - <http://osnabirds.org>

AOS - <http://www.americanornithology.org>

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

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

RRF - <http://raptorresearchfoundation.org>

WOS - <http://www.wilsonociety.org/>

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

CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES, SHORT COURSES AND WORKSHOPS - American Ornithology 2017: Annual Meeting of the American Ornithological Society and the Society of Canadian Ornithologists/Société des Ornithologistes du Canada to be held in East Lansing, Michigan, USA **31 Jul to 5 Aug 2017**. We are inviting proposals for training opportunities, short courses, and workshops related to ornithological research and conservation, **due by 8 Mar 2017**. All proposed events will take place on Monday, 31 July and Tuesday, 1 August before the other sessions. Description of events: 1. Training Opportunities are geared towards the professional development of attendees, mainly in government and NGO sectors. Proposed events should be scheduled for a half or a whole day and previous topics have included Remote monitoring systems, Overview of avian collision impacts, or an Introduction to full annual-cycle models and monitoring needs. Preference will be given to proposals that provide training opportunities to which the target audience does not have regular access. 2. Short Courses are full-day, interactive experiences that offer training in relevant tools and skills for ornithological research and conservation, and will be held 2 days prior to the start of conference. These courses are targeted towards students, academics and professionals. Possible topics include Advances in tracking of bird migration and movement, Automated song recognition in autonomous recordings, or an Introduction to multi-species modeling. 3. Workshops provide overviews of concepts, topics, and initiatives across diverse fields of interest and audiences. Examples include Effective science communication, Social media for the ornithologist, or Innovations in the teaching of ornithology. Participation in all workshops is through advance registration only. PROPOSALS should be 1-3 pages, and specify the following: 1. Type of event (Training, short course, or workshop); 2. Title of event; 3. Desired times and dates (up to 3 desired times: Monday or Tuesday, AM only, PM only, Full day); 4. Name and affiliation of instructor(s); 5. Number of participants (min, max) and target audience; 6. Proposed cost to participants (if applicable; fees for participation, if charged, typically range from \$24-40US); 7. Summary of course objectives; 8. Overview of topics or syllabus; 9. Prior experience teaching proposed topic; and 10. Required facilities and equipment; please be as specific as possible, e.g. long tables, projector.

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POSTMASTER: Send address change to ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWSLETTER, 5405 Villa View Dr., Farmington, NM 87402.

The Scientific Program Committee must receive all proposals **by 8 Mar 2017 11:59 pm EST**, with the subject line AOS-SCO Workshop Proposal to (EM: 2017aosworkshops@gmail.com). Please contact CATHERINE LINDELL, member of the Scientific Program Committee (EM: lindellc@msu.edu) with any questions

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS FOR AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGY 2017: Annual Meeting of the American Ornithological Society and the Society of Canadian Ornithologists/Société des Ornithologistes du Canada to be held in East Lansing, Michigan, USA, **31 Jul to 5 Aug 2017**. We invite submission of abstracts for consideration as a presentation in the general sessions. Abstracts are due **by 1 Apr 2017** and should have a concise title (maximum 100 characters) and maximum 250 words. We encourage abstracts from all members of the ornithological community and expect a meeting that reflects speaker diversity and gender equality. Three presentation formats are available: 1. 15-min oral presentations (12-min talk plus 3-min question period); 2. 5-min lightning talks; and 3. Traditional posters. During the submission process, authors have the opportunity to rank which of the above three formats they are willing to accept. For authors applying to present in the general sessions, and who identify themselves as in the earlier stages of their careers (e.g., students, postdocs and pre-tenure faculty), we will try to accommodate their top-ranked format for presentation delivery. Among these requests, we will prioritize those who are not also giving a presentation in a symposium and whose abstracts include explicit (rather than vague or no) results. We welcome undergraduate student presenters, who will have the option of participating in the Undergraduate Research Symposium. Attendees will typically be allowed to be the presenting author for only one (1) paper or poster in the general sessions. Students applying for travel awards must submit their abstract by the April 1st deadline. Presenting students are not automatically considered for a travel award; instead they must submit a separate application for a travel award to be considered. By submitting an abstract, presenters agree to present a talk or poster (if it is selected) at AOSSCO 2017 meeting. If an abstract is accepted, presenters must register for the conference within 30 days of notification of abstract acceptance; presenters who do not register by this deadline will not be included in the final program. Notifications regarding acceptance of general session abstracts will be sent out in mid-May 2017. A link to the AOS-SCO2017 Abstract Management System can be found on the conference website (<http://aossco2017.fw.msu.edu/abstract-submission/>). Guidelines for oral and poster presentations will be available on the website soon (<http://aossco2017.fw.msu.edu/>). Abstract submission **deadline is 11:59 pm EDT on 1 Apr 2017**. Please contact the Scientific Program Committee (EM: 2017scientificprogram@gmail.com) with any questions about the program or submission process.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEET WITH YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS ABOUT SCIENCE – Scientists and graduate students who are interested in communicating the importance of federal investments in scientific research and education to lawmakers are invited to participate in the Biological and Ecological Sciences Coalition (BESC) Congressional Visits Day in Washington, DC. This event is an opportunity for scientists to meet with their members of Congress to discuss the importance of federal funding for biological research and education. Event participants advocate for federal investments in biological sciences research, with a primary focus on the National Science Foundation, as well as other federal agencies. This year's event will be held on **25-26 Apr 2017** in Washington, DC. There is no cost to participate in this event, but space is limited. The deadline to sign up is 1 Mar 2017. For more information, see <http://ornithologyexchange.org/forums/topic/32294-biological-and-ecological-sciences-coalition-besc-congressional-visits-day/>

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 Session: **5-9 Jun 2017**. Fall Session: **2-6 Oct 2017**. Receive first-hand experience working with: live raptors, capturing, handling, banding techniques, broadcast call surveys, tree climbing, rappelling, blood sampling and more. Cost is \$525 and space is limited, so register early. For more information visit <http://raptorservices.rezgo.com>

MERLIN BIRD PHOTO ID MOBILE APP LAUNCHES – The Merlin Bird Photo ID mobile app has been launched and, thanks to machine-learning technology, can identify hundreds of North American species it "sees" in photos. The app was developed by Caltech and Cornell Tech computer vision researchers in partnership with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and bird enthusiasts. Because Merlin Bird Photo ID can be used on mobile devices, it can go anywhere bird watchers go. Answer five simple questions about a bird you are trying to identify and Merlin will come up with a list of possible matches. Merlin offers quick identification help for beginning and intermediate bird watchers to learn about North America's most common birds! Or Use a Photo. Snap a photo of a bird, or pull one in from your camera roll, and Merlin Photo ID will offer a short list of possible matches. Photo ID works completely offline, so you can even identify birds in the photos you take when you are far from cell service. For more information, see <http://cornell.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=b35ddb671faf4a16c0ce32406&id=174aabcd30&e=f196fc7d58>

NABC BIRD BANDING WORKSHOP CERTIFICATION SESSION – Ecorana Environmental Ltd. is offering another NABC bird banding workshop certification session in Belize this spring. The workshop will be offered at the Toucan Ridge Ecology and Education Society (T.R.E.E.S) in the Maya Mountains of Belize. The workshop will concentrate on North American passerines while also banding resident species. The workshop will be from **26 Feb until 2 Mar 2017** and certification is on **3-5 Mar 2017**. Beginners and experienced banders are both both welcome. Workshop only \$850 US including food and lodging, \$350 US for certification (certification is additional). Places are limited so contact us soon at info@ecorana.ca or visit <http://www.treesociety.org>.

CANCELLED – THE WORLD OWL CONFERENCE scheduled for 22-26 Mar 2017, in Italy, has been cancelled, but . . .

THE WORLD OWL CONFERENCE 2017 IS NOW ON for **26-30 Sep 2017** in Evora, Portugal. Ten years after the last meeting in Groningen, The Netherlands, this important event for all researchers, naturalists and ornithologists dedicated to studying owls finally returns. The World Owl Conference 2017 will take place at the Colégio do Espírito Santo, University of Évora, a remarkable UNESCO World Heritage Building from the sixteenth century. Conference deadlines: Early bird registration: 1 Mar – **31 May 2017** Regular registration: 1 Jun – **31 Aug 2017** Abstract submittal: 1 Mar – **15 Aug 2017** For more information check <http://www.woc2017.uevora.pt/en/>

POSITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

The OSNA Ornithological Jobs page is currently unavailable. To POST or FIND ornithological jobs, please go to the Ornithology Exchange, <http://ornithologyexchange.org/jobs/index.html>.

THE BIRDJOBS-L E-LIST will continue to be an option for receiving notices about ornithological jobs. Subscribers to this list will receive the same announcements that appear on Ornithology Exchange, 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. If you need help, contact ctrine@andrews.edu.

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/>

WORLD OWL HALL OF FAME AWARD WINNERS– Three individuals will be inducted into the World Owl Hall of Fame to honor their exceptional contributions to the study, conservation, and public awareness of owls.

- Dr. R. J. Gutiérrez will receive the Champion of Owls Award for his lifetime work on behalf of owls. His long-term research on the Spotted Owl in western North America provides a foundation for conservation of this rapidly declining species
- Dr. Jonathan Slaght will receive a Special Achievement Award for research and conservation efforts with the endangered Blakiston's Fish Owl in Russia. His studies of Fish Owl populations have significantly expanded the world's understanding of this rare owl.
- Mr. Sumio Yamamoto will also receive a Special Achievement Award for studies and conservation of the Blakiston's Fish Owl. His focus is the natural behavior, habitat, and captive rearing of the Fish Owl in Japan.

Each of these Owl Hall of Fame winners continue to make the world a better place for owls. All winners will be attending and speaking at the 2017 International Festival of Owls in Houston, MN, 3-5 Mar 2017.

PERSONAL EXCHANGES

LOOKING FOR A HARD COPY OF *Studies in Avian Biology No. 19* – Ecology and Conservation of Grassland Birds of the Western Hemisphere – edited by Vickery and Herkert. If you have one and would be willing to sell it, please contact KARL E. MILLER (EM: karl.miller@myfwc.com), Fish & Wildlife Research Institute, 1105 SW Williston Road, Gainesville, FL 32601.

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

HUBBARD BROOK: THE STORY OF A FOREST ECOSYSTEM. Richard T. Holmes & Gene E. Likens. 2016. Yale University Press. 288 pp., 187 color photos and illustrations, 8.5"x10". ISBN: 9780300203646 (Hardcover, \$45.00/£30.00). For more than 50 years, the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest in the White Mountains of New Hampshire has been the site of intensive ecological study, making it one of the most comprehensively studied forests in the world. This book highlights many of the important findings from the research conducted there, such as the discovery of acid rain, the ecological effects of forest management practices, and how a changing climate is affecting forest structure and function. Of special interest to readers of the Newsletter are accounts of the long-term research on bird populations conducted by Holmes and his associates, including the roles of birds in ecosystem processes and the multiple factors that affect bird population dynamics and abundance.

RELEASED FOR ANDROID - *THE WARBLER GUIDE APP* – Princeton University Press is pleased to announce the release of the eagerly-awaited Android edition of *The Warbler Guide App*. To find out more, please visit <http://press.princeton.edu/titles/10416.html>.

A SURVEY OF THE AVIAN ALIMENTARY TRACT: DTW Crompton and MC Nesheim First University Press at E-Commons, Cornell University. <http://hdl.handle.net/1813/44697> This Survey of the Avian Alimentary Tract, includes drawings of the alimentary tract of 151 birds from 52 families. Also included are radiographs of the digestive system of the domestic fowl as well as whole body sections illustrating the anatomy of a chicken. The origins of the survey and the significance of certain anatomical features in the context of the feeding habits of various species are briefly discussed.

THE BELOVED AND CHARISMATIC BLUEBIRD, Dean C. Rust, 2016. Publishers Printing Company, 160 pp, 95 hi-res color photos, 8" x 10". ISBN: 9780692558638 (Softbound, \$19.95). Available at Amazon.com, Troyer's Birds' Paradise, <http://www.bluebirdconservation.com>. The Beloved and Charismatic Bluebird is a "hands-on" guide to Bluebirds that provides practical knowledge and proven techniques to increase your chances of being successful with Bluebirds in your backyard. New, up-to-date techniques are presented regarding: habitat selection, building & installing nest boxes, monitoring techniques, planting flora for Bluebirds, and protecting them from predators. Getting involved with Bluebirds is not only a rewarding endeavor in citizen science, but it can be an excellent activity to share with your children or grandchildren while enjoying nature and getting some exercise outdoors.

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

44TH PACIFIC SEABIRD GROUP ANNUAL MEETING will be held in Tacoma, WA, **22-25 Feb 2017**. In keeping with the locale for the meeting, the theme is "Sound to Sea: Marine Birds Across the Seascape". Registration and abstract submission opens **30 Sep 2016**. Abstract submission deadline is **18 Nov 2016**. For more information, please consult the meeting webpage (<http://www.pacificseabirdgroup.org/index.php?f=meeting&t=Annual%20Meeting&s>).

*THE 129TH ANNIVERSARY MEETING OF THE WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY – On the campus of Florida Gulf Coast University, Ft. Myers, Florida, **9-12 Mar 2017**. The campus is located just east of I-75 (between exits 123 and 128) and about 3 miles south of the Regional Southwest International Airport in a pine flatwoods setting crossed by a baldcypress slough and dotted with small lakes and baldcypress domes. Access to campus habitats is made possible by a nature trail through wooded areas and boardwalks through wetlands. Timing of the meeting coincides with the university's spring break and-more importantly-with the best birding of the year in southwest Florida. Winter residents will still be present and Neotropical migrants such as warblers, vireos, and Swallow-tailed Kites will be arriving daily. Resident Loggerhead Shrikes, Northern Mockingbirds, and others will be nesting. It will be well into the dry season in southwest Florida and wading birds will be concentrated at Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, Six-mile Cypress Slough, and the famed STA-5 (Stormwater Treatment Area-5). Nearby Bunche Beach and Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge will be hosting wintering shorebirds and others arriving from the south enroute to breeding grounds. Come prepared for a birding extravaganza and share with us the fruits of your ornithological research at paper sessions on Friday and Saturday. Frank Moore will present the Margaret Morse Nice plenary lecture. **IMPORTANT DATES AND CONTACT INFORMATION:** Call for Papers. Abstracts for the scientific program will be accepted until **10 Feb 2017** at <http://www.wilsonsociety.org/wos2017/callforpapers.html>. Early (discounted) registration will be open until **10 Feb 2017** at <http://www.wilsonsociety.org/wos2017/registration.html>. The local host, JERRY JACKSON, may be reached at (EM: jjackson@fgcu.edu).

*THE EASTERN BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION (EBBA) will have it's annual meeting **24-26 March** in Ithaca New York. Please see the meeting website for more information. <http://www.easternbirdbanding.org/2017-ebba-meeting/>

QUAIL 8 – NATIONAL QUAIL SYMPOSIUM, **26-28 Jul 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>

THE 135TH STATED MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY (representing the merged American Ornithologists' Union and Cooper Ornithological Society) and the 35TH MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF CANADIAN ORNITHOLOGISTS - Société des Ornithologistes du Canada will be held jointly in East Lansing, Michigan, USA, **31 Jul to 05 Aug 2017**.

THE 2017 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS will be held **8-12 Aug 2017** as a joint meeting with the Society of Brazilian Ornithology and Aves Argentina in Puerto Iguazu, Argentina.

INTERNATIONAL WADER STUDY GROUP CONFERENCE 2017, Prague, Czech Republic, **15-18 Sep 2017**. Czech Wader Study and Protection Group and the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague are the hosts. For more information, visit: <http://www.waderstudygroup.org/conferences/>

*RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION CONFERENCE, **8-12 Nov 2017**. HawkWatch International will host the annual conference at the Sheraton Hotel in Salt Lake City, Utah. Presentations on any aspect of raptor biology, ecology, research techniques, conservation, and management are invited. Symposia are already being planned on 1) raptor science for educators and delivering science to the general public, 2) conservation and ecology of under-studied open land raptors, and 3) raptors and the energy sector. The deadline for submission of additional symposium proposals is **15 May 2017**. The deadline for submission of papers for the general sessions is **15 June 2017**. For more information, see <http://www.raptorresearchfoundation.org>.

27TH INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS, **19 - 26 Aug 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 general meeting information and updates, including special events, field trips, local attractions, and links to social media pages, please register on <http://www.IOCongress2018.com>. Mid-Congress Tours on Friday, 24 August 2018 will showcase the best of birding on the spectacular west coast of beautiful British Columbia. Pre- and post-Congress tours will not only include prime Canadian, including the Arctic, destinations but also Ecuadorian Cloud Forest, Amazon and Galapagos expeditions - in celebration of this being the first Congress on the Pacific Coast of the Americas.

IN MEMORIAM

GEORGE M. JONKEL of Fountain, Florida, a member of AOU since 1962 (Elective member 1985), AFO since 1983, and RRF since 1997, passed away 20 Nov 2016. He first worked for the Montana Fish & Game Department and then with the U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife in Bismarck, North Dakota. In 1963 he transferred to Huron, South Dakota, and set up the Fish & Wildlife Wetlands Acquisition Office for preservation of waterfowl habitat. In 1971 he was made Chief of the Bird Banding Laboratory in the Office of Migratory Bird Management, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, in Patuxent, Maryland. During this employment, he contributed to scientific advancement of bird banding and bird population studies, working with ornithologists in Brazil, India and China in establishing their banding programs. He served as chair of the South Dakota chapter of The Nature Conservancy, secretary of the Raptor Research Foundation, officer of The Wildlife Society and member of The American Ornithologists Union and the South Dakota Ornithologists.

THE FLOCK - SPECIAL SECTION

To correct your address in the membership database please send the new information to the OSNA Membership Office, 5405 Villa View Dr., Farmington, NM 87402 (EM: OSNAMembers@gmail.com, PH: 312-883-4670) or change it yourself online in the OSNA Member Portal (URL: <https://customer265664c9b.portal.membersuite.com/Login.aspx>). To alert your colleagues of new address information, contact the *Ornithological Newsletter* Editor, CHERYL L. TRINE (EM: ctrine@ATandrews.edu).

**ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETIES
OF NORTH AMERICA**

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Address Service Requested

THE MOST RECENT NUMBERS of the Society journals and the month of mailing are: *Auk*, 2017, Vol. 134, #1 (Jan); *Condor*, 2016, Vol. 118, #4 (Nov), *J. Field Ornith.*, 2016, Vol. 87, #4 (Dec), *Raptor Res.*, 2016, Vol. 50, #4 (Dec), *Waterbirds*, 2016, Vol. 39, #4 (Dec), *Wilson J. Ornith.*, 2016, Vol. 128, #4 (Dec). 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), **by 1 March 2017**. 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.