

Ornithological Newsletter

American Ornithologists' Union
Cooper Ornithological Society
Waterbird Society

Association of Field Ornithologists
Raptor Research Foundation
Wilson Ornithological Society

Cheryl L. Trine, Editor

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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>

RRF - <http://raptorresearchfoundation.org>

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

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

THE WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY is pleased to announce the following important changes regarding The Wilson Journal of Ornithology:

- Council has elected DR. JOHN FAABORG as Editor of *The Wilson Journal of Ornithology* beginning with Volume 130. Effective 1 July 2017, communication should be directed to: John Faaborg, Editor, The Wilson Journal of Ornithology, Division of Biological Sciences, University of Missouri-Columbia, 110 Tucker Hall, Columbia, MO 65211-7400 USA; EM: wjo@missouri.edu.
- Effective 1 July 2017, manuscripts to be considered for publication in *The Wilson Journal of Ornithology* must be submitted through Peer Track at <http://www.editorialmanager.com/wilsonjo>

AFO AFIELD – The most recent issue of the Association of Field Ornithologist's biannual newsletter, *AFO Afield* is now available for download. In this issue, we provide a summary of the NAOC VI meeting that was held in Washington D.C. in August 2016. In so doing, we present the recipients of the AFO Student Presentation Awards, the Best Student Publication Award, the Bergstrom Research Awards, and the Pamela L. and Alexander F. Skutch Fund Research Award. We also introduce the two newest elected members of the AFO's Governing Council (Class of 2019), Rob Aldredge and Ian Ausprey. In preparation for our annual meeting which will occur from the 8th to the 11th of August, 2017 in Puerto Iguazú, Argentina as part of the Ornithological Congress of the Americas, we provide details about the congress program including information about the 7 internationally renowned ornithologists that we will be hosting as plenary speakers. We also include information about the conference location, potential field trips, and birds that may be seen in the surrounding area which includes the world famous Iguazú Falls! Following on from the August 2016 issue of *AFO Afield*, we provide the second installment of our article showcasing the research of former recipients of the Pamela L. and Alexander F. Skutch Fund Research Award. In this issue, we learn about the research of Harold Greeney, Noemi Esther Llanos, and Renata Biancalana. Finally, we provide details about AFO's recent acquisition of Avinet, Inc., a supplier of specialized equipment for field biologists. To download the most recent copy of *AFO Afield*, please visit: http://afonet.org/wp_english/about/newsletter/

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

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NABC NEWSLETTER – The North American Banding Council is delighted to introduce the inaugural issue of *Avisé*, our new quarterly newsletter! <http://www.nabanding.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/NABC-v1n1.pdf> We hope *Avisé* will be an interesting and useful way to keep in touch with the NABC community, by providing articles on *current NABC initiatives, *revisions of existing NABC products, *meeting announcements and updates, *bander and trainer development. It goes without saying that we welcome suggestions and contributions for future issues . . . but for now, enjoy this one!

NUMEROUS BIRD-RELATED REGULATIONS APPEAR TO BE EXTINCT– It appears as though several bird-related regulations - including some that would have affected ornithological research (some, for the better) - are now on the scrap heap. Gone are pending regulations on CITES, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and Animal Welfare Act. The bird banding regulatory revisions have been consigned to the long-term action list. Updates to the Wild Bird Conservation Act are still moving forward, as are regulations updating import and export procedures and an increase in permit and other fees. For a more detailed update of what's gone, what's on the inactive or long-term action list, and what's moving forward, see http://ornithologyexchange.org/articles/_/community/numerous-bird-related-regulations-appear-to-be-extinct-r250

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 to study raptors. "Introduction to Raptor Field Techniques" will be held in Stevens Point, WI by Eugene Jacobs of the Linwood Springs Research Station. First Fall Session: **2-6 Oct 2017**. Second Fall Session **9-13 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>

HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE DISCUSSES FIVE ESA BILLS – The House Natural Resources Committee held a hearing regarding five bills focused on different aspects of the U.S. Endangered Species Act on Jul. 19. The ESA has been the subject of much debate in Congress for the past several years, and these bills are aimed at modifying the ESA to make it more effective and cooperative. At least two of the proposed bills are receiving bipartisan support. Three of these bills may be of particular interest to ornithologists. **H.R. 2603 – Saving America's Endangered Species (SAVES) Act** would amend the ESA so that endangered nonnative species once in the United States cannot be treated as threatened or endangered species under the Act, thus reducing the regulations surrounding the transport and trade of the species. **H.R. 717 – Listing Reform Act** would enable the USFWS and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to consider the economic effects that may occur from listing a species or designating critical habitat under the ESA, and decline to list a species as a result of those determined economic impacts. **H.R. 1274 – State, Tribal, and Local Species Transparency and Recovery Act**. would require that data used as a basis for listing species and designating critical habitats be made available to the impacted states. More information on the testimony before the committee is available at <http://wildlife.org/house-natural-resources-committee-discusses-five-esa-bills/>

COSEWIC: BIRD-STATUS ASSESSMENT – And while we are on the subject of endangered species, it would be good to review the recent activities of the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). The committee held its spring meeting in Whitehorse, Yukon, in April. According to a report by Dr. Marcel Gahbauer, Co-chair of COSEWIC's Birds, the committee assessed two species for the first time - Harris's Sparrow and Lark Bunting - along with also reviewing the status of the Burrowing Owl and the Rusty Blackbird. Harris's Sparrow is the only songbird breeding exclusively in Canada. It nests primarily in the boreal-tundra transition of the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, and the northernmost parts of Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Ontario. The species is primarily monitored on its wintering grounds in the U.S., where numbers have declined by nearly 60% since 1980. The Harris's Sparrow was assigned the status of Special Concern on the basis of this trend, and concerns of ongoing threats such as habitat conversion, cat predation, and climate change. Lark Bunting occurs in Canada only where the northernmost edge of its range crosses into Alberta and Saskatchewan. Populations of this nomadic grassland songbird fluctuate greatly from year to year, depending on seasonal weather patterns and grasshopper abundance. While this complicates trend estimation, research shows a reduction of 98% since 1970 and more than 50% in the past decade. Although the species remains numerous, COSEWIC assessed Lark Bunting as Threatened in recognition of the population's ongoing steep decline. Burrowing Owl, up-listed from Threatened to Endangered in 1995, was reconfirmed as Endangered on the basis of population declines of more than 60% over the past decade. Also, Rusty Blackbird, assessed by COSEWIC as Special Concern in 2006 on the basis of substantial long-term population declines, retained its status, despite the assessment that numbers have largely stabilized over the past decade. Key threats continue to include wetland conversion and a blackbird control program on the U.S. wintering grounds, wetland acidification, mercury contamination, and climate change. You can visit the COSEWIC website to learn more about the recent status assessments of Canada's wildlife at: <http://www.cosewic.gc.ca/> (Birding Community E-bulletin June 2017 <http://myemail.constantcontact.com/Birding-Community-E-bulletin---June-2017.html?soid=1106822336233&aid=b1eZZ1csyo0>)

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

REQUEST: SOLAR ECLIPSE EFFECTS OF WILDLIFE – My name is Dustin Ranglack and my collaborator, Dr. Nate Bickford, and I recently received a small grant from NASA to try and find behavioral differences of animals during the August 21, 2017 North American solar eclipse from telemetry data. Given the rarity of eclipse events, this is an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Past research on this topic is extremely limited, but suggests animals do change their behaviors in response to eclipse events. We are requesting information about any animals that you may have tagged with telemetry (GPS or VHF) along the eclipse path (see here: <https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/eclipse-who-what-where-when-and-how/>), as we would be very interested in using and analyzing data from as many different species along as much of the eclipse path as possible. In regards to our research, we are hoping to get GPS data from the tagged animals from a week before the eclipse to a week after the eclipse. We will analyze the data and if we find a response we will then write a manuscript for publication in an appropriate peer-reviewed journal. In exchange for sharing your data, we will happily include one member of your research team as a co-author on the manuscript. Please let us know if you have any questions and whether you would be interested in collaborating with us here at UNK-Biology. We look forward to hearing from you soon. Additionally, please forward this letter along to any other researchers you know who are working along the eclipse path. Thank you for your help in this effort. Dr. DUSTIN RANGLACK, Assistant Professor PH: 308.865.8545 EM: ranglackdh@unk.edu), Dr. NATE BICKFORD, Associate Professor (PH:308.865.8410 EM: bickfordns@unk.edu)

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 BIRDSJOBS-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/>

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

JOURNEY HOME: HOW A SIMPLE ACT OF KINDNESS LED TO THE CREATION OF A LIVING LEGACY, Bonnie Paton Moon, 2017. This non-fiction book chronicles the history of a benevolent couple and their commitment to keep a treasured backyard open to birders from around the world. The story about how this remarkable place in southeastern Arizona, which became known as Paton's Birder Haven, came to be and the legacy that it created, began in 1974 when Wally and Marion Paton moved from New England to Patagonia, Arizona. Inspired by a visit, in the early 1990's from well-known wildlife photographer, Arthur Morris, who noticed the rare Violet-crowned Hummingbird at their feeders, Wally and Marion Paton opened their gate and welcomed the public into their backyard. A world-renowned birding mecca evolved and life around the Paton house was never the same. For more information, you may wish to contact the author directly: BONNIE PATON MOON (PH: 203-222-1192 EM: moonbeam2rm@yahoo.com).

LOOKING FOR A BACK ISSUE of the *Auk*, *Condor*, *Wilson Bulletin*, *Ibis*, *American Birds*, *Audubon Field Notes*? Allen Hale of Buteo Books is maintaining a substantial inventory of ornithological journals, both major and minor, including long runs. Prices vary from \$5 to \$25 per issue plus Media Mail shipping depending on age and scarcity. Contact ALLEN HALE (EM: allenmhale@gmail.com) with your want lists.

NEOTROPICAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS (NOC) PROCEEDINGS AVAILABLE—Hardcopies of three NOCs (2003, 2007, 2011) are available for the cost of postage. Contact JACK EITNIEAR (EM: jclintoneitnear@gmail.com) for details on the cost of postage to your address. This totals 1585 pages dealing with 146 papers that are not available on the internet.

[Proceedings of the VII Neotropical Ornithological Congress](#)

Termas de Puyehue- Chile, 5-11 October 2003

Edited by Raymond McNeil and Ivan Lazo

47 papers, 488 pages

[Proceedings of the VIII Neotropical Ornithological Congress](#)

Maturin-Venezuela, 13-19 May 2007

Edited by Raymond McNeil

60 papers, 657 pages

[Proceedings of the IX Neotropical Ornithological Congress](#)

Cusco-Peru, 6-14 November 2011

Edited by Jack Clinton Eitnear

39 papers, 440 pages

MEETINGS

A 'permanent' meeting list is maintained on BIRDNET (URL: <http://www.mnh.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

ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS OF THE AMERICAS--Joint meeting of the ASSOCIATION OF FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS, Aves Argentinas, and Sociedade Brasileiro de Ornitologia at Puerto Iguazú, Argentina, **8–11 Aug 2017**. We are excited to announce the Ornithological Congress of the Americas to be held at Puerto Iguazú, Argentina, near the spectacular Iguazu Falls. The congress will feature workshops, symposia, over 350 scientific presentations, 7 internationally renowned plenary speakers, and a celebration of 100 years of Aves Argentinas! Join us in this beautiful location to interact with ornithologists from throughout the Americas. **Please note that abstract submission and early-bird registration close on **9 June**. Congress dates: 8–11 Aug 2017 (with workshops and field trips on Aug 7–8 and Aug 12–13). Location: Centro de Eventos y Convenciones del Iguazú, Puerto Iguazú, Argentina. Conference website: <http://www.afonet.org/2017iguazu/>

41ST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WATERBIRD SOCIETY--ICELAND. The Waterbird Society will hold its 41st Annual Conference and General Meeting at the University of Iceland in Reykjavik, Iceland from **8–12 Aug 2017**. Early bird registration will end **13 June**. For more information about the meeting, field trips, lodging and the location, please visit <https://waterbirds.org/annual-meeting> and <https://icelandtravel.artegis.com/event/WaterbirdSociety2017>

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/>

WORLD OWL CONFERENCE 2017, Evora, Portugal, **26–30 Sep 2017**. 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: Registration: **31 Aug 2017**, Abstract submittal: **15 Aug 2017**. For more information check <http://www.woc2017.uevora.pt/en/>

*2ND INTERNATIONAL BIRD OBSERVATORY CONFERENCE (IBOC) **26–30 Oct 2017**, hosted by New Jersey Audubon's Cape May Bird Observatory. Bird observatories around the globe annually engage millions of bird enthusiasts in person and online with educational programs, scientific research and community projects. They serve as key players working with national and local governments to promote conservation. And together, bird observatories are cooperating along migratory flyways to share critical data and address conservation challenges. The conference aims to be inclusive, and welcomes presentations related to any organization that considers itself to be a bird observatory, regardless of its name. Presentations may address a broad range of topics, including but not limited to observatory-related research and monitoring, outreach and education, operations, management, or capacity building. All conference proceedings will be conducted in English. Featured speakers include John Alexander (Klamath Bird Observatory), Andy Clements (British Trust for Ornithology), Erica Dunn (Canadian Migration Monitoring Network), Pete Dunne (New Jersey Audubon), Pablo Elizondo (Costa Rica Bird Observatories), Andrew Farnsworth (Cornell Lab of Ornithology), Allen Fish (Golden Gate Raptor Observatory), Kimberly Kaufman (Black Swamp Bird Observatory), David La Puma (NJ Audubon's Cape May Bird Observatory), Björn Malmhagen (Falsterbo Bird Observatory) and C.J. Ralph (Point Blue Conservation Science). Please visit the IBOC website at <http://www.regonline.com/IBOC2017> for all the details, or to register. A limited number of scholarships are available to help with travel costs.

THE 21ST CONGRESS OF THE MESOAMERICAN SOCIETY OF BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION (SMBC) and the 6TH INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF PARTNERS IN FLIGHT (PIF) will occur **30 Oct – 03 Nov 2017** at the Hotel Crowne Plaza Corobicí, San José, Costa Rica <http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/cp/1/en/hotel/SJOCP?hotelCode=SJOCP>. The theme is "Conservation of biodiversity in the hands of Mesoamerican women". Proposals for workshops and symposia are due May 19 to ZAIDA PIEDRA (EM: logisticacr2017@gmail.com) for SMBC and to GREG BUTCHER (EM: gbutcher@fs.fed.us) for PIF. Abstracts for oral presentations or posters are due 31 May; early registration ends 31 July. If after these deadlines, please contact to see if exceptions can be made. See SMBC website for more info: <http://www.congresosmbc.org>.

RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION 2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE **7–12 Nov 2017**, Salt Lake City, Utah USA. The 2017 Raptor Research Foundation conference will be held at the Sheraton in Salt Lake City. Local host HawkWatch International is happy to welcome RRF back to Salt Lake City after 35 years. Utah offers a stunning diversity of landscapes so you may want to add some time to your trip to visit some of these wonders. Field trip destinations include Farmington Bay Bird Refuge, a full day trip to the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge and the Snowville area in northern Utah (think Ferruginous Hawks, Rough-legged Hawks, Prairie Falcons, and more), and a trip into the Wasatch Mountains. Presentations on any aspect of raptor biology, ecology, research techniques, conservation, and management are invited. Early Career Raptor Research Program Workshops will include topics in Wingspan 26(1) May 2017 such as banding and harnessing, necropsy, trapping techniques, climbing techniques for nest access, and western raptor identification. Conference Information may be viewed at: <http://www.raptorresearchfoundation.org/conferences/current-conference> To offer ideas or financial support, for vendors, event sponsor opportunities, or for other information please contact the RRF 2017 local chair, DAVE OLEYAR (EM: doleyar@hawkwatch.org).

THE 2018 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY will be jointly held with the Association of Field Ornithologists on **7–9 Jun, 2018** at the Chattanooga Convention Center in Chattanooga, TN. Inexpensive room blocks will be available at the attached Marriot Chattanooga Downtown and the nearby Days Inn Chattanooga-Rivergate. Chattanooga is a family-friendly location with lots of activities in the downtown areas and a plethora of local eateries. June will be an excellent time for local birding and several field trips will be available to participants. If you have questions about the meeting, please contact WOS representative MARK DEUTSCHLANDER (EM: deutschlander@hws.edu) or local host DAVID ABORN (EM: David-Aborn@utc.edu).

*INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR BEHAVIORAL ECOLOGY, **11–17 Aug 2018**. The biennial ISBE conference will be held in Minneapolis, MN, hosted by the University of Minnesota. More information at <http://www.behavecol.com/meetings-conferences/>

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

WESLEY E. (BUD) LANYON, a member of the AOU since 1947 (elective member 1958, fellow 1963), COS since 1955, and WOS since 1955, passed away 7 June 2017 at the age of 90. Almost his entire career was spent at the American Museum of Natural History where he served as the director of the Museum's Kalbfleisch Research Station on Long Island, Chair of the Department of Ornithology, and Curator. He was awarded the AOU's Brewster Memorial Award in 1968 for his studies of the ecology, behavior, and systematics of meadowlarks, flycatchers, and warblers. Bud was active in national and international ornithology and served as President of the AOU from 1976 to 1978.

WILLIAM J.L. SLADEN, a member of the AOU since 1956 (elective member 1964, fellow 1974), AFO since 2005 and Waterbird Society, passed away 29 May 2017 at his home in Warrenton, VA at the age of 96. A scientist and conservationist known worldwide for long-term behavioral studies of Arctic and Antarctic birds, particularly Adelie penguins and North American native swans. In 1964 he was the first to discover DDT residues in Antarctic penguins and seals thus helping to demonstrate the global reach of this long-lasting pesticide. In the 1970s, he defined the 8,000-mile roundtrip migration route of the Tundra Swan as a part of a team advising the Air Force and FAA on bird hazards to aircraft. He filmed Adelie penguins extensively, both for science and to reach a wider public. His film, "Penguin City," first aired by CBS in 1971 and narrated by Charles Kuralt, documented the day-to-day lives of Adelie penguins for a popular audience. In the 1980s, Sladen collaborated with Canadian Bill Lishman in an experiment to train Canada geese to fly behind ultralight aircraft, hoping the technique might be used to teach safer migration routes to Trumpeter swans and other endangered waterfowl. In 1993, the first successful experiment, a flight of 18 Canada geese, imprinted on ultralight aircraft left Canada behind two ultralights, landing four days later at the Airlie Conference Center. The experiment led to the Hollywood film, "Fly Away Home."

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, #3 (Jul); *Condor*, 2017, Vol. 119, #2 (May), *J. Field Ornith.*, 2017, Vol. 88, #2 (Jun), *Raptor Res.*, 2017, Vol. 51, #1 (Mar), *Wilson J. Ornith.*, 2017, Vol. 129, #2 (Jun). 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 October. 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@ATandrews.edu), **by 1 September 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.