

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 187

DECEMBER 2008

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/>

THE AOU COMMITTEE on Nomination of Fellows and Elective Members is beginning their work of preparing nominations for 2009. Any AOU member who would like to put forward a name for consideration by the committee should contact the chair of the committee, TOWN PETERSON (EM: town@ku.edu), **by 15 Jan 2009**.

NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP CLASSES of Fellow and Elective Member of the AOU are **due 15 Mar 2009**. Fellows and Elective Members are encouraged to submit nominations of deserving colleagues. Following its official charge to supplement nominations, the Committee on Nomination of Fellows and Elective Members will prepare only a few nominations, and thus timely submissions from members are imperative. 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 (URL: <http://www.aou.org/membership/special.php3>). Nominators seeking to endorse a nominee must first obtain the instructions and forms for 2009, 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 May 2009. Ballots must be returned by mail to the Secretariat by three weeks before the Stated Meeting (i.e., **by 22 Jul 2009**) and the names will be announced at the Business Meeting of Members in Philadelphia, PA. For FELLOW nominations, the Secretary will compile and prepare packets to be sent to current Fellows in May 2009. Voting will take place at the Fellows Meeting on 12 Aug 2009.

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 12 Apr 2009**. Officers to be elected will be Secretary, Treasurer, and four Elective Councilors. The election will occur by electronic and postal ballots prior to the meeting. At the conclusion of the 127th Stated Meeting, Edward H. Burt, Jr., will begin his second year as President and John R. Faaborg will begin his 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) is willing to stand for re-election, however the incumbent Treasurer (Frank B. Gill) will be stepping down. Of the total of twelve Elective Councilors, four are

elected annually to serve terms of approximately three years, beginning at the close of the Stated Meeting. Elective Councilors to be replaced at the conclusion of the 127th Stated Meeting in 2009 are André Desrochers, Patricia J. Heglund, Jeffrey R. Walters, and David W. Winkler. Continuing to serve in 2009-2010 will be Elective Councilors Bonnie S. Bowen, Mary Bomberger Brown, Janis L. Dickinson, Robert C. Fleischer, Geoffrey E. Hill, Rebecca L. Holberton, Amanda D. Rodewald, and Bridget J. M. Stutchbury. 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).

REPORT OF THE SEVENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COOPER ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY—The Cooper Ornithological Society held its 78th annual meeting in conjunction with the American Ornithologists' Union and the Society of Canadian Ornithologists, in Portland, Oregon, 4-9 August 2008. The Steering Committee was chaired by SUSAN HAIG. Steering Committee Members were DOUGLAS ROBINSON, KATIE O'REILLY, BRUCE DUGGER, MICHAEL WEBSTER, MICHAEL MURPHY, ERIC FORSMAN, JOAN HAGAR, JON JANOSIK, LAURA NAGY, KATIE DUGGER, ANDREA POMEROY, and ELLEN PAUL. DOUGLAS ROBINSON chaired the Scientific Program Committee. There were 1012 registrants. The program included 4 plenary presentations, 131 papers in 23 symposia, 652 contributed papers, 229 posters, and 2 workshops.

- The Society's award for lifetime achievement in ornithological research, the Miller Award, was presented to PETER MARLER. A full citation will be published in *The Condor*.
- BLAIR WOLF and FRITZ L. KNOPF were recognized with Honorary Membership to the Cooper Ornithological Society for their service to the society. Dr. Wolf's past service to the society includes being a board member (2002-2005), Chair of the Publications Committee in 1999, and student paper judge. Dr. Wolf has been the principal driver of SORA (Searchable Ornithological Research Archives) since 2000. Dr. Knopf's service includes the Conservation Committee (1985-1986), Chair of the Publications Committee (1995-1999) and developing the society's web site (1996-1997). He has served as a board member since 2006 and has chaired the Nominating Committee and Panton Awards Committee since 2007.
- Mewaldt King Student Research Awards were presented to JASON TOWNSEND, State University of New York, "Mercury accumulation and food web biomagnification in two forest-dwelling songbirds of New York's upland forests", NICOLE MICHEL, Tulane University, "Mechanisms of avian understory insectivore population decline in a tropical rainforest reserve: evidence for trophic cascades?", HEATHER MAJOR, Simon Fraser University, "Recovery of nocturnal burrow-nesting seabirds after the eradication of introduced predators", BRIDGET SOUSA (Honorable Mention), University of Kentucky, "The Effects of Grassland Restoration on Avian Mating Patterns." James Tucker, Shalin Busch, Jessica Eberhard, Melissa Hughes, and Sarah Latshaw assisted Paul Nolan, the Mewaldt-King Award committee chairperson, with the selections this year.
- Grinnell Student Research Awards were presented to MICHAEL BUTLER, Arizona State University, "The effect of early-life challenges and carotenoids intake on adult immune function and coloration in mallards", NANCY CHEN, Cornell University, "MHC and Florida Scrub-jays: mechanisms maintaining adaptive genetic variation in natural populations", and CHRISTOPHER TONRA, University of Maine, "The physiological underpinnings of seasonal interactions:

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.

does winter habitat limit breeding readiness in a Neotropical migrant songbird?"

- The Cooper Ornithological Society presented four awards for outstanding student papers. The A. Brazier Howell Award was given to CLINTON FRANCIS, University of Colorado, "Effects of gas well compressor noise on nest site selection and bird community composition in pinon-juniper woodlands of northwest New Mexico," and the Frances F. Roberts Award was presented to DANIEL BARTON, University of Montana, "Does food limitation, nest predation, or adult mortality explain variation among species in within-species reaction norms of provisioning rates to brood size?" The Board of Directors Awards were given to ALISON BOYER, University of New Mexico, "Consistent ecological selectivity through time in Pacific Island avian extinctions," and JUAN PABLO GOMEZ, Universidad de los Andes, "Phylogenetic structure of typical antbird (Thamnophilidae) communities."
- Through the annual balloting by all members of the Society, STEVE BEISSINGER, FRANK MOORE, and PATRICIA KENNEDY were elected to three year terms on the Board of Directors.
- In the Board of Directors' meetings, the following were elected to, or continue in, office: THOMAS E. MARTIN, President; MERCEDES FOSTER, President elect; ABBY POWELL, Secretary; BETH HAHN, Assistant Secretary; KATIE DUGGER, Treasurer; KIMBERLY A. SULLIVAN, Assistant Treasurer, MICHAEL PATTEN, editor of *The Condor*, and CARL D. MARTI, editor of *Studies in Avian Biology*.
- The next annual meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Society will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in Tucson, Arizona. Scientific sessions will occur on Friday and Saturday, **17-18 Apr**, and the Board of Directors will meet **15-16 Apr, 2009**. JOSEPH FONTAINE is chair of the Local Committee, and VICKI SAAB is chair of the Scientific Program Committee.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR AOU AWARDS:

- WILLIAM BREWSTER MEMORIAL AWARD-Nominations are invited for the William Brewster Memorial Award for 2009. The Brewster Award is given for the most meritorious body of work (book, monograph, or series of related papers) on birds of the Western Hemisphere published during the past ten years. Nominations should be in the form of a written letter that includes (1) the name and institution of the nominee, and (2) a written description of the contributions of the nominee to ornithology. Submit one electronic copy of the nomination to the Chair, AOU Committee on Scientific Awards, CHARLES VAN RIPER (EM: charles_van_riper@usgs.gov), **by 15 Jan 2009**.
- ELLIOTT COUES AWARD-Nominations are invited for the Elliott Coues Award for 2009. The Elliott Coues Award recognizes extraordinary contributions to ornithological research and involves no limitation with respect to geographic area, sub-discipline(s) of ornithology, or the time course over which the work was done. Nominations should be in the form of a written letter that includes (1) the name and institution of the nominee, and (2) a written description of the contributions of the nominee to ornithology. Submit one electronic copy of the nomination to the Chair, AOU Committee on Scientific Awards, CHARLES VAN RIPER (EM: charles_van_riper@usgs.gov), **by 15 Jan 2009**.
- NED K. JOHNSON YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD-Nominations are invited for the Ned K. Johnson Young Investigator Award for 2009. The Ned K. Johnson Award recognizes outstanding and promising work by a researcher early in his/her career in any field of ornithology. Successful nominees will excel in research and show distinct promise for leadership in ornithology within and beyond North America. They must have received their doctorate within 5 years of being nominated, must not have received the award previously, and must be a member of the AOU at the time of nomination. To nominate a candidate for the Ned K. Johnson Young Investigator Award, submit one electronic copy of the nomination to the Chair, AOU Committee on Scientific Awards, CHARLES VAN RIPER (EM: charles_van_riper@usgs.gov), **by 15 Jan 2009**. Nominations should be in the form of a written letter that includes (1) the name and institution of the nominee, and (2) a written summary why the nominee should be considered for an award, including statements on his/her scientific accomplishments, the relevance of his/her research to scientific ornithology, and his/her promise as a leader in ornithology.
- AOU CONSERVATION AWARD-Nominations are invited for the AOU Conservation Award for 2009. The AOU Conservation Award

recognizes extraordinary scientific contributions to the conservation, restoration, or preservation of birds and/or their habitats by an individual or small team (usually less than 10 people). Contributions from throughout the world and over any time course are eligible. Appropriate activities include: - Applied research, restoration, and educational actions that conserve birds, or preserve significant bird habitats; - Scientific examination of the principles of avian conservation and application of new insights into species restoration; - Scientific evaluation, guidance, creation, and oversight of avian recovery programs or habitat reserve/restoration programs. To nominate a candidate for the AOU Conservation Award, submit one electronic copy of the nomination to the Chair, AOU Committee on Scientific Awards, CHARLES VAN RIPER (EM: charles_van_riper@usgs.gov), **by 15 Jan 2009**. Nominations should be in the form of a written letter that includes (1) the name and institution of the nominee, and (2) summarizes why the nominee(s) should be considered for an award, including statements on scientific, educational, and conservation accomplishments, the relevance of his/her science to avian conservation, and his/her leadership in avian conservation, documentation of the conservation implications of the candidate's work, and what birds have benefitted from the science.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEETING WEBSITE: <http://www.birdmeetings.org> – The gateway to meetings and conferences of ornithological societies in North America and worldwide. The Cooper Ornithological Society and the American Ornithologists' Union have partnered to launch a new Web site to host and announce upcoming ornithological meetings and conferences. Upcoming COS and AOU meetings will be hosted at this site (URL: <http://www.birdmeetings.org/cos2009> and <http://www.birdmeetings.org/aou2009>). In addition, links to meetings of other societies can be found here. If you would like to have a link to your meeting's Web site posted here, contact Cheryl Trine (ctrine@andrews.edu). www.birdmeetings.org is hosted by Schneider Group, OSNA's membership services provider.

MEXICAN BAN ON PARROT TRADE—A bill to ban the capture and export of Mexican wild parrots was introduced one year ago by the Environment Commission of the Deputy Chamber. It was passed in the Mexican Senate on 22 April, 2008 with near unanimous support and recently signed by President Felipe Calderon. The bill will go into effect once it is published in the official Congressional diary. Mexico has 22 species of parrots and macaws, and roughly 90 percent of them are in some category of risk. The latest Mexican classification (yet to be published) lists 11 species as endangered, five as threatened, four requiring special protection, and two as yet unclassified. An estimated 65,000-78,500 wild parrots and macaws are captured illegally each year, with more than 75 percent of them dying before ever reaching a purchaser. Mexico only allows the sale of parrots via legal channels, with 3,000 to 4,000 parrots allocated for capture each year, according to government quotas. Unfortunately there is no system to differentiate between legally and illegally captured birds. While this bill marks a victory for parrot conservation, much has yet to be done. Enforcing this legislation is the critical next step. See here for more details: <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2008/10/0801002-parrot-trade.html> (Excerpted from *Birding Community E-bulletin*, Nov. 2008)

THE NETHERLANDS ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION (NOU) is a platform for people interested in behavior and ecology of birds and research that focuses on these aspects. The NOU would greatly appreciate the input of fellow ornithologists on the quality of its journal *Ardea*, website and other society aspects. *Ardea*, ranking 6th on the list of twenty ornithological journals, is the scientific journal of the NOU, and has been published since 1912. All *Ardea* papers up until 2001 can now be freely browsed and downloaded. Please check *Ardea* at our website (URL: <http://www.nou.nu>). The NOU is trying to reach as many ornithologists and birders across the globe as possible with a questionnaire. Please take a few minutes of your time to fill out the NOU questionnaire for non-members at <http://www.nou.nu>. In addition, please distribute this request to other members of your department, birdnetwork or birding group, or to others who are interested in ornithology.

VERTEBRATES OF COASTAL MARSH AND MANGROVE WORKING GROUP AND FORUM—At the interface of land and sea, tidal marshes provide a highly productive, but uniquely challenging habitat for terrestrial vertebrates. Tidal marsh systems are a living laboratory for the study of local adaptation. Tidal marshes also face serious challenges from development, contaminants, degradation, and global sea-level rise. Already, scientists study the birds, mammals, and reptiles of tidal marshes and mangrove swamps on coastlines throughout the world. But much of this work is focused on a single coastline or species and what is presently needed is a more global and holistic approach to understanding the evolution, ecology, and conservation of the marsh and forests that fringe our estuaries and the vertebrates they support. We are taking the first steps towards the formation of a *Vertebrates of the Estuarine Fringe Working Group*. The goals of this group include: 1) To increase communication and intellectual cross-fertilization between researchers working on tidal marsh vertebrates and other aspects of tidal marsh ecology globally. 2) The development of an umbrella strategy that articulates the need for cross-cutting and integrated research on tidal marsh vertebrate ecology and the marshes they inhabit. 3) The identification of ways to promote awareness and conservation of tidal marsh vertebrates throughout the world. 4) An increase in collaborative and comparative research programs that will increase our overall knowledge of tidal marsh systems within and between continents. We encourage all researchers from all coastlines and countries to join irrespective of taxonomic focus. While participation requires no more than signing up for the listserve, we are particularly interested in developing a community of researchers who are active and engaged in the discussion. INTERESTED? <https://udel.edu/mailman/listinfo/tw-verts>

BIRD-MONITORING WORKSHOP IN TRINIDAD – planned for the **first two weeks of May 2009** to be held in the field at the Simla Research Station of the Asa Wright Nature Reserve in the Arima Valley of Trinidad. The workshop will feature training in mist netting, banding, bird identification, aging and sexing birds, use of point counts for monitoring populations as well as techniques for data analyses. The workshop will provide "hands-on" training to enable participants to initiate monitoring programs for their respective organizations. Once participants are trained they will be asked to initiate monitoring programs for their home organizations and serve as leaders for advancing bird conservation in their areas of responsibility. The workshop organizers invite enquiries and applications from individuals from Cuba, Jamaica, Guyana, Surinam, and the Dominican Republic as well as Trinidad and Tobago. English will be the language of instruction so at least a moderate level of English comprehension will be required. Participants are expected to have basic bird watching skills, as well as some previous field experience relating to conservation or ecological studies. Travel funds will be provided for those participants residing outside of Trinidad & Tobago. The workshop will be sponsored by the Asa Wright Nature Center along with other partners from Trinidad & Tobago, as well as International Programs of the U.S. Forest Service, the Klamath Bird Observatory, and the North American Banding Council. Those with an interest in participating in the workshop should submit a resume summarizing relevant wildlife-related experiences and training, a letter of interest stating why they wish to participate in the workshop as well as a statement of their interests in initiating and maintaining a bird monitoring program in their home territory, and a list of three references with their e-mail addresses. Applications and queries should be submitted to DR. JOSEPH M. WUNDERLE (EM: jmwunderle@gmail.com).

TWO RARE HAWAIIAN BIRDS, the Akikiki and Akekee have been proposed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to be listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The proposal includes listing 48 animals and plants that inhabit the Island of Kauai, and will utilize a new ecosystem-based approach to their conservation and the designation of Critical Habitat. According to the Fish and Wildlife Service, the new ecosystem approach to listing and critical habitat designation process is designed to protect multiple species that occur in shared ecosystems and experience common threats. "By addressing the common threats that occur across these ecosystems, we can more effectively focus our conservation efforts on restoring functions of these shared habitats," said Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne. Comments on the proposed listing must be received by **22 Dec 2008**. (Excerpted from *Birding Community E-bulletin*, Nov. 2008)

NEWS FROM THE ORNITHOLOGICAL COUNCIL

Provided by DAVID E. BLOCKSTEIN, Chair (EM: oc@cnie.org), and ELLEN PAUL, Executive Director (EM: ellen.paul@verizon.net), 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 at <http://www.osnabirds.org/>). Thank you for helping the Ornithological Council in its efforts to keep the world safe for ornithology!

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE ORNITHOLOGICAL COUNCIL! Society membership renewal notices have landed in your inbox or mailbox....and we hope that when you renew, you will contribute to the Ornithological Council. Our eleven member societies provide the Ornithological Council with about 75% of its funding. Without the additional support from individual ornithologists who contribute through the check-off box on the membership renewal form or through direct contributions, the Ornithological Council could not continue to exist. Many ornithologists already know that the Ornithological Council is the "go-to" source for assistance and information regarding permits, animal welfare, and other policies and procedures that they must follow in conducting their research. Among the key services provided by the OC are: *Guidelines to the Use of Wild Birds in Research* (a peer-reviewed document, available for free, in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, that is used by scientists, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees, and government agencies). It is now undergoing a major revision, and a password-protected literature database will be available to members of our member societies; Peer-reviewed guidance on the impacts of West Nile Virus and H5N1 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza on ornithology (in English and Spanish); Comprehensive guides for obtaining permits for import of specimens and live birds, permits to work on federally managed public lands, state permitting (in progress); Representation to the U.S., Canadian, and international organizations that set animal welfare standards for scientific research. We've also helped many ornithologists to obtain policy information about the birds they study, and to communicate their research findings to policy makers and conservation planners and resource managers. More details about our work can be found in our annual report, which is posted here (URL: <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/OC/OCnews.html>). If you value the efforts of the Ornithological Council to "keep the world safe for ornithology" please contribute whatever you can. You will find a line on the printed renewal notice, at the top of the column where you will list your dues and contributions to the OSNA (Ornithological Societies of North America) societies. You can also contribute via the OSNA website (URL: <http://www.osnabirds.org>) if you renew online. The line for contributions to the OC appear at the bottom of the webpage where you enter the society membership dues and contributions. Those who are not members of one of the six societies that send a membership renewal notice through OSNA, can always make a direct contribution through PayPal (URL: https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_sxclick&hosted_button_id=750884) using your free PayPal account, a credit card, or check (payable to the Ornithological Council and mailed to 8722 Preston Place, Chevy Chase, MD 20815, USA). Thank you to all who have contributed in the past. We appreciate your support!

OC NEEDS YOUR INPUT ON EXPERIENCE WITH INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEES - In December 2008, the Ornithological Council will be meeting with the committee charged with revising the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* (the "ILAR Guide"). To be able to represent your views, concerns, and experiences, we need to hear from you. Please contact OC Executive Director ELLEN PAUL (EM: ellen.paul@verizon.net).

CORRECTION: We apologize for the typo in the address for subscribing to Ornith-L. The correct address is: LISTSERV@SI-LISTSERV.SI.EDU.

ARE YOU PLANNING TO ATTEND THE AFO/WOS MEETING IN PITTSBURGH (APRIL 2009)? Be sure to plan your travel to arrive in time to attend a special workshop on **Thursday, 9 Apr 2009 (1 p.m. to 5 p.m.)**. At the request of AFO and WOS leadership, the OC has organized this workshop on the animal welfare laws in the United States and the way those laws impact ornithological research. Speakers will include Darrel Styles, DVM and Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, DVM, both of the Animal Care program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and Eileen Morgan of the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare of the National Institutes of Health. Morgan will give an overview and discuss the revision of the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* (the "ILAR Guide"), a key publication from the National Research Council of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine. She will also discuss the involvement of Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees in occupational safety and health issues. Styles will speak about the pending revision of the AWA guidelines with regard to rats, mice, and birds, and Kulpa-Eddy will talk about the "3Rs" principles of animal welfare in research - replacement (with non-animal models), reduction (in the number of animals studied), and refinement (of methods)—particularly the refinement (of methods). Todd Katzner of the National Aviary will represent the views and experiences of the research community. This workshop will give everyone a chance to ask questions and share concerns with the decision-makers, who rarely have an opportunity to meet with scientists who study wildlife. Please be sure to plan your travel so you can participate in this workshop.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO ANIMAL WELFARE ACT REGULATIONS

- This proposed change to the Animal Welfare Act, requiring contingency planning and training of personnel by research facilities, would affect any ornithologist who works with live animals in captivity. At first read, it all sounds reasonable, but the Ornithological Council seeks input from researchers who might be affected. Are any of the specific requirements problematic or unduly burdensome? **Comments are due to the USDA by 22 Dec 2008.** The USDA explains that it is seeking to impose these requirements because the agency believes that all research facilities should develop a contingency plan for all animals regulated under the Animal Welfare Act in an effort to better prepare for potential disasters. The specifics are as follows: Due to the fact that the individual circumstances for facilities may be different (e.g., holding exotic animals versus pet animals, being situated in a State with a cold climate versus a temperate climate, etc.), it is difficult to go into specific detail as to what elements must be included in all contingency plans. However, we are proposing a set of general criteria to which contingency plans would have to adhere. These criteria would require licensees and registrants to develop contingency plans that: * Identify situations the facility might experience that would trigger the need for a contingency plan, including emergencies such as electrical outages, faulty HVAC systems, fires, and animal escapes, as well as natural disasters the facility is most likely to experience. Listings of areas most at risk for specific natural disasters can be found on the U.S. Geological Survey Web site (URL: <http://www.usgs.gov/hazards>) or on the Weather Channel Web site (URL: <http://www.weather.com/ready/?from=secondarynav>). * Outline specific tasks required to be carried out in response to the identified emergencies including, but not limited to, detailed animal evacuation instructions or shelter-in-place instructions and provisions for providing backup sources of food and water as well as sanitation, ventilation, bedding, veterinary care, etc. * Identify a chain of command and who (by name or by position title) will be responsible for fulfilling these tasks. * Address how response and recovery will be handled in terms of materials, resources, and training needed. We are also considering the development of a guidance document (or other means) to provide examples of elements that may be included in contingency plans. We welcome public comment on Web sites, articles, or other sources that may be used to develop such guidance, in addition to suggestions as to what elements should be included as examples for an adequate contingency plan. We are further proposing that the plans be made available to APHIS upon request and, in the case of research facilities, to any funding Federal agency representatives. Contingency plans would have to be in place 180 days after any final rule following this proposal became effective and would have to be reviewed by the research facility, dealer, exhibitor, intermediate handler, or carrier on at least an annual basis. Training of personnel would have to take place within 60 days following the adoption of a contingency plan by the research facility, dealer, exhibitor, intermediate handler, or carrier. Employees hired within 30 days or less after

adoption of the contingency plan would be included in the training period taking place within 60 days following adoption of the contingency plan. For employees hired more than 30 days after adoption of the contingency plan, training would have to be conducted within 30 days of their start date. Training of personnel could be developed and offered by the research facility, dealer, exhibitor, intermediate handler, or carrier or provided by an outside entity. Each research facility, dealer, exhibitor, intermediate handler, or carrier would be expected to review its contingency plan on at least an annual basis to ensure their plan adequately addresses the four criteria listed above. For licensees and registrants who travel with animals or have multiple sites where animals are maintained, their contingency plans would have to address potential hazards for all areas where the animals are maintained for regulated purposes. Any changes to a contingency plan resulting from the annual review would have to be communicated to employees through training, which would have to be conducted within 30 days of making the changes. The plan would also be reviewed by APHIS personnel as a part of the routine inspection process (similar to the process for our review of dog exercise and nonhuman primate environment enhancement plans). ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by either of the following methods: Federal eRulemaking Portal (URL: <http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main?main=DocketDetail&d=APHIS-2006-0159>): to submit or view comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically. Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery: please send two copies of your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2006-0159, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. APHIS-2006-0159. For further information contact: DR. JODIE KULPA-EDDY, Staff Veterinarian, Animal Care, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 84, Riverdale, MD 20737; (PH: 301-734-7833).

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

DUSTY OLD TRANSMITTERS CLUTTERING YOUR OFFICE? – Starving graduate student at the University of Missouri is looking for used radiotelemetry equipment for a woodpecker study. If you have any refurbishable transmitters (Holohil PD-2 or comparable) that you would like to donate or sell, please contact ALLISON COX (EM: coxall@missouri.edu, PH: 573-884-8532). Also looking for receivers and antennas.

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: ctrine@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>

SARKIS ACOPIAN AWARD—Hawk Mountain Sanctuary recently awarded DR. TOM CADE, founder of The Peregrine Fund, its 2008 Sarkis Acopian Award for Distinguished Achievement in Raptor Conservation. The award was made in recognition of Dr. Cade's work

in helping to restore functional populations of Peregrine Falcons and other species of raptors through the use of captive breeding and release. Last year's awardee was Dr. Ian Newton, formerly of the Monks Wood Research Station in Cambridgeshire, England. The Acopian Award, the most prestigious in raptor conservation, consists of a medallion bearing the image of conservationist and philanthropist Mr. Sarkis Acopian, the Sanctuary's largest benefactor, and includes a \$10,000 cash prize.

AOU RESEARCH AWARDS FOR 2009. Instructions for submitting an application for a 2009 AOU Research Award are now available and can be accessed on the AOU homepage (URL: <http://www.aou.org>) by following the Awards link to the Research Awards page. The AOU has made several changes this year, increasing the maximum award to \$2500, opening eligibility to post-doctoral research associates, and increasing the level of funding for Latin American students. Questions can be directed to the Chair of the AOU Research Awards Committee either by e-mail (EM: rbowman@archbold-station.org) or by regular mail: REED BOWMAN, Avian Ecology Lab, Archbold Biological Station, 123 Main Dr., Venus, FL 33960. Applicants must submit ten (10) copies of the completed application form, their proposal and budget, to the Chair by **6 Feb 2009**. Applications that do not adhere strictly to the submission guidelines will not be evaluated.

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP AWARDS COMPETITION FOR THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION—Are you a student interested in joining the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU)? The Council of the AOU has voted to provide one-year student membership awards to qualified undergraduate or graduate students interested in pursuing a career in ornithology. There are many benefits to becoming a member of the AOU: (1) You will receive *The Auk*, the leading journal of ornithology. (2) You will receive *Ornithological Monographs*, a venue for longer ornithological publications. (3) You will have access to the online membership directory, providing contact information for all members of the Ornithological Societies of North America. (4) You will receive free access to the *Birds of North America* online. (5) You will be eligible to apply for travel awards to attend annual meetings and research grants to support high quality research (only members may apply). (6) You will become part of a forward-looking organization that promotes participation of professionals and amateurs in the mission of understanding and conserving birds. To qualify, students must: 1. Have no current or prior membership in the AOU; 2. Provide a resume or curriculum vitae describing the current degree program, the expected date of completion and the candidate's academic and/or work experience, and interests in ornithology (electronic documents preferred); 3. Provide a brief letter of sponsorship from an academic advisor on letterhead from the institution in which the student is currently enrolled (electronic documents preferred). Awards are not renewable, but recipients can continue to be AOU members at the reduced student rate, as long as they retain student or post-doctoral status. To apply, please read the full application details through the "Membership" link on the AOU website (URL: <http://www.aou.org/>) and forward your materials electronically to the Student Membership Awards organizer, DANIEL MENNILL (EM: dmennillATuwindorsDOTca).

TIOF ENDOWMENT FUND PROPOSAL—The International Osprey Foundation (TIOF) is seeking applications for its 19th annual grant program to support research activities of a graduate student primarily focusing on osprey. However, work with other raptor species may be considered. The award recipient will be expected to provide a report on his or her research and use of the funds within one year of receiving the grant. To apply, send a project description of no more than two pages, an itemized estimate of expenses, and the name and address of the graduate supervisor. This project description and estimated budget, along with a cover letter giving whatever personal data you wish to furnish, will serve as your grant application. No further documents are required. Applications must be submitted by **31 Jan 2009** to: TIOF Endowment Fund, P.O. Box 250, Sanibel, FL 33957-0250. The grant will be awarded on 31 Mar 2009.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS – NESCent Postdoctoral Fellows, Sabbatical Scholars, Working Groups and Catalysis Groups – The National Evolutionary Synthesis Center (NESCent) is now accepting proposals for postdoctoral fellows, sabbatical scholars, working groups and catalysis meetings. Proposals for postdoctoral fellowships are accepted at the **1 Dec deadline** only. Proposals for sabbatical scholars, working

groups and catalysis meetings are accepted twice a year, with **15 Jun and 1 Dec deadlines**. Proposals for short-term visitors are considered four times a year, with deadlines on **1 Jan, 1 Apr, 1 Jul, and 1 Sep**. For more information, please see our website (URL: <https://www.nescent.org/science/proposals.php>)

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE D.H. SPEIRS AWARD—The Doris Huestis Speirs Award is the most prestigious award given by the Society of Canadian Ornithologists and is presented annually to an individual who has made outstanding lifetime contributions to Canadian ornithology. Past awardees include professionals who work at museums, government agencies, private companies and universities, as well as amateur ornithologists. To nominate a candidate for the Speirs award please provide the Chair of the award committee with the name of the nominee and supporting information that describes the nature and scope of the nominee's contributions and impact in Canadian ornithology. This could include their efforts to advance conservation, science, public education, or some combination of these or other contribution(s). Membership in the SCO is not required for either nominators or nominees. Nominations for the 2009 award may be sent to: DR. MARTY LEONARD, Department of Biology, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 4J1 (PH: 902-494-3540; FX: 902-494-1123, EM: mleonard@dal.ca).

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

TWO NEW BOOKS are available 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 inquiries and more information, call the Bird Department (PH: 607-495-2471).

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HISTORY OF AUSTRALASIAN ORNITHOLOGY, William E. Davis, Jr., Harry F. Recher, Walter E. Boles, and Jerome A. Jackson, editors. NOC Memoir No. 14, Cambridge, Massachusetts. 2008: 481 pp. 101 figures and photographs. ISBN 1-877973-43-2. \$50 (cloth). This book includes chapters on Gould's collector John Gilbert; ornithology at the Auckland Museum, the Western Australian Museum, and CSIRO; systematics and biogeography in Australian ornithology; the Australian National Wildlife Collection; and a history of threatened birds in Australia.

BIRD BANDING IN NORTH AMERICA: THE FIRST HUNDRED YEARS, Jerome A. Jackson, William E. Davis, Jr., and John Tautin, editors. NOC Memoir No. 15, Cambridge, Massachusetts. 2008: 280 pp., 62 figures and photographs. ISBN 1-877973-45-9. \$40 (cloth). This book deals with the early history of bird banding; the role of banding organizations; the Bird Banding Laboratory; the role of bird banding in population monitoring; restoration of declining or extirpated populations; quantitative population ecology; management of migratory bird hunting; avian toxicology; understanding habitat use; international waterbird conservation; investigation of disease, safety, and economics; and behavioral research.

THE ORNITHOLOGIST'S DICTIONARY, Johannes Erritzoe, Kaj Kampp, Kevin Winker, and Clifford B. Frith, 2008. Lynx, Barcelona, Spain. \$25 or €19. More than 5,000 English ornithological terms are concisely defined. Technical terms for specialists are explained scientifically; more popular terms are explained in common English followed by the technical term within parentheses. Words of Latin or Greek origin are also included, as are prefixes and suffixes and many abbreviations. Both English and American usage are given. To order (URL: <http://www.hbw.com/lynx/en/books-on-birds/general/>). The book can also be ordered in the U.S. from Buteo Books (URL: <http://www.buteobooks.com>) or in Europe from NHBS (URL: <http://www.nhbs.com>).

KIPTOPEKE CHRONICLES, Walter Post Smith. 2009 (In Press). Aventine Press. Approx. 200 pp. The memoir of one Virginian's exploration of his passion for birds, and the comradery he found in his bird banding companions. Relive the "good old days" at Kiptopeke in the early 1970's with Walter Post Smith as he recounts his migratory bird banding adventures. This history of the Kiptopeke Banding Station will be available through the Center for Conservation Biology, The College of William and Mary, PO Box 8795, Williamsburg, VA 23187 (EM: conbio@wm.edu) and major online bookstores starting in January.

ON THE WINGS OF CRANES: LARRY WALKINSHAW'S LIFE STORY, Lowell M. Schake, 2008. iUniverse, Inc. NY. 376 pp., ISBN: 978-0-595-48497-3 (pbk), \$24.95; ISBN: 978-0-595-71999-0 (cloth) \$34.95 and ISBN: 978-0-595-60589-7 (ebk) \$6.00. Lawrence H. Walkinshaw's (1904-1993) first ever biography reveals how cranes and Walkinshaw became synonymous. Recognized as "The Father of International Studies of Gruiformes," he did more for longer than any leading to the salvation of endangered Whooping Cranes, Greater Sandhill Cranes, and Kirtland's Warblers. His exploits further established him as "...the greatest bird-nest-finder of all time" and the "model" life history scholar on cranes, warblers and sparrows. Available through Barnes & Noble, Amazon.com, or by calling the publisher at 1-800-288-4677. Follow their menu prompts. Those wishing to support favorite conservation programs may soon obtain their copies from the International Crane Foundation, the WebPages of Operation Migration devoted to Whooping Crane reintroduction, The Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, The Michigan Audubon Society, the World Birding Center, or the Audubon Outdoor Club of Corpus Christi.

BIRD SONGS OF MEXICO: VERACRUZ VOLUME 1, produced by Fernando González-García and Antonio Celis-Murillo. This first CD of the BIRD SONGS OF MEXICO series of audio field guides contains recordings of over 77 species of resident and migratory birds, including endemics. Songs that are rarely heard, some emitted by migratory birds during their winter residence and others by species with year-round residence are included, as well as a recording of environmental sounds from one wetland of Veracruz. All the sounds on the CD were recorded within the limits of the state of Veracruz. Visit <http://www.birdsongsofmexico.com> and <http://www.ecologia.edu.mx> for more information. Available at <http://www.aveoptica.com>

KINGFISHER'S FIRE, A STORY OF HOPE FOR GOD'S EARTH, Peter Harris, 2008. Monarch Books, Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA. ISBN 978 0 8254 6182 8. Paperback, 221pp, 35 color photos. Price: \$12.99. Harris, founder of A Rocha, a Christian conservation organization, tells the story of people from many nationalities who are quietly changing the places where they live and the attitudes of the surrounding communities. He also looks at the motivation for change from a markedly cross-cultural perspective. Whatever our nationality, and whatever our religious faith or the lack of one, we all treat the world in accordance with our beliefs. For the many people who care about the state of the planet but are deeply pessimistic, this book also brings hope.

PERSONAL EXCHANGES

FREE COPY of *Waterbirds* Volume 30, Special Issue 1, *Waterbirds of the Chesapeake Bay and Vicinity: Harbingers of Change?* Edited by R.M. Erwin, B.D. Watts, G.M. Haramis, M.C. Perry, and K.A. Hobson. This 182 page special issue resulted from the 2005 symposium of the Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation's meeting in Norfolk VA, and summarizes current status, trends, threats, and future prospects for a broad variety of species from eagles and ospreys to colonial species, waterfowl, marsh birds, and shorebirds. Contact LYNDY GARRETT (EM: : Lgarrett@usgs.gov PH: 301 497-5550), Librarian, USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, 12100 Beech Forest Rd., Laurel MD 20708.

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> (scheduled to be ready December 1) to find links and to post a link to your meeting.

* in this section indicates new or revised entry

4TH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL BIOGEOGRAPHY SOCIETY, **8-12 Jan 2009**, Mérida, México. Invited symposia will feature talks on the biogeography of disease, patterns and

processes in biotic transition zones, disjunct distributions in Asia and America, and the biogeography of species extinction. Registration, contact, and additional information may be found at: <http://www.biogeography.org>

36th PACIFIC SEABIRD GROUP MEETING, **22-25 Feb 2009** at the Hakodate Kokusai Hotel, Hokkaido Hakodate, Japan. The meeting includes a symposium-- "Working Beneath the Surface: New Approaches in Examining the Interplay of Biomechanics, Physiology and Behavioural Ecology in Diving Seabirds". Special paper sessions include: 1) Status and Conservation of Endangered and Threatened Seabirds in the Western Pacific; 2) Conservation of Albatross Species in the Central and North Pacific; and 3) Seabird Bycatch in Pacific Commercial Fisheries. For details, visit the PSG website (URL: <http://www.pacificseabirdgroup.org/>).

*BIRD EDUCATION AND CONSERVATION CONFERENCE--The Council for Environmental Education (CEE), Flying WILD, and the Bird Education Network (BEN) will soon be hosting *Bird Conservation through Education: A National Gathering* in Jekyll Island, Georgia. This week-long bird education and conservation conference will be held from **22 - 26 Feb 2009** at the Jekyll Island Club Hotel located along the Colonial Coast Birding Trail in Georgia. By bringing together leaders from government agencies, conservation organizations, zoos, aquariums, nature centers, Audubon centers, businesses, universities, K-12 schools, NGOs, non-profit groups and others, this event provides a unique opportunity for educators and bird professionals to network and exchange ideas about best practices for educating the public about bird conservation. Join us for an exciting week of bird education! For more information visit URL: <http://www.birddeduction.org/jekyllisland.htm> or contact the Council for Environmental Education (PH: 713-520-1936, EM: info@councilforee.org).

5th INTERNATIONAL HORNBILL CONFERENCE, **22-25 Mar 2009**, Singapore Botanic Gardens. Sponsored by the National Parks Board Singapore, and Hornbill Research Foundation, the theme of the conference is 'Hornbills and the Challenges of the Future'. More information is available at <http://rafflesmuseum.wordpress.com/2008/05/05/5th-international-hornbill-conference-2009/> Website will soon be operational, but in the meantime contact msnbc@singnet.com.sg for expressions of interest.

2ND PAN-EUROPEAN DUCK SYMPOSIUM to be held in Arles, Camargue (Southern France), **23-26 Mar 2009**, sponsored by The French National Game and Wildlife Agency (Office National de la Chasse et de la Faune Sauvage). All aspects of dabbling- or seaduck ecology will be considered. Scientists from non-European countries are welcome. Interested people are welcome to join the mailing list to be kept informed regularly. To join the mailing list or for any further information please contact us (EM: matthieu.guillemain@oncfs.gouv.fr). Conference web page: <http://www.oncfs.gouv.fr/evenements/duckssymposium.php>.

SEABIRD GROUP 10TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE will be held in Bruges (Brugge), Belgium, on **27-30 Mar 2009**. Papers on all aspects of seabird research and conservation will be welcomed; in addition to keynote presentations, there will be a special session on 'Seabird Success Stories'. The Chairpersons of the Organizing Committee are ERIC STIENEN (Research Institute for Nature and Forest: INBO) and JAN SAYS (Flanders Marine Institute: VLIZ). Address general queries, abstracts and registrations to the Conference Secretariat EM: seabirdconf2009@vliz.be). Additional information is on the websites (URL: <http://www.seabirdgroup.org.uk> and <http://www.vliz.be/conferences/seabirdconference2009.be>).

THE 2009 ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY and THE ASSOCIATION OF FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS will be held jointly **8-12 Apr 2009** in Pittsburgh, PA. The meeting, hosted by the National Aviary and Powdermill Nature Reserve, will be held at the Hilton Pittsburgh and the National Aviary. Abstract submission will open in autumn 2008 and a conference website will be on-line in summer 2008. Ideas for workshops and symposia are currently being accepted. The local host, TODD KATZNER, may be reached at the Department of Conservation and Field Research, National Aviary, 700 Arch St., Allegheny Commons West, Pittsburgh, PA 15212, USA (PH: 412-323-7235 x210; EM: todd.katzner@aviary.org).

***79TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COOPER ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY** will be held in Tucson, Arizona on **16-18 Apr** at the Tucson Doubletree Hotel at Reid Park. All information about the meeting, including registration and abstract submission, can be found at the meeting website (URL: <http://www.birdmeetings.org/cos2009>). To save paper and costs, the Circular of Information will be mailed only to members who do not use e-mail. Dr. Joseph Fontaine (EM: fontaine.joseph AT gmail.com) is chair of the local committee. Dr. Alexander Badyaev has agreed to give what is sure to be an exciting Plenary Address on the opening morning (17th). This meeting will have a new, shorter format, with two days (Friday and Saturday) of scientific sessions, and a prior day (Thursday) for workshops. Please send any workshop or symposium proposals to DR. VICKI SAAB (EM: vsaab AT fs.fed.us), the Scientific Program Chair **by 15 Dec 2008** (new deadline). Please send a title, names of organizer(s) and potential participants, tentative titles of presentations, and a brief statement of why it would be of interest for this meeting. Symposia will include 20-min talks in half-day sessions, scheduled concurrently with contributed paper sessions. The deadline for abstracts and early registration is **30 Jan 2009**. Students and young professionals are welcomed and encouraged to attend the meeting. Students may apply for travel awards and presentation awards; the **deadline is 30 Jan 2009** and information is available online (URL: <http://www.birdmeetings.org/cos2009>). Commencing with the Tucson meeting, we are instituting an exciting new competition and format for young professionals. Three individuals will be chosen based on an extended abstract and their CV. These 3 finalists will each give a 20 min plenary (plus 5 min for questions) on the second morning of the meeting to the entire coalition of attendees to showcase their work. The finalists will receive travel support and the winner will be announced at the banquet. Details of the competition can be found on the COS website (URL: <http://www.cooper.org>) or can be obtained from DR. BARBARA KUS (EM: barbara_kus AT usgs.gov). Tucson is a beautiful location for ornithologists in April and the Tucson Audubon Society is arranging field trips and bird walks. Schneider Group is in charge of meeting arrangements and can be contacted at (EM: cos2009 AT sgmeet.com, PH: 1-254-776-3550).

***46TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SOCIETY, 22-26 Jun 2009.** Pirenópolis, Brazil. For the first time in its history of annual meetings, the Animal Behavior Society will hold its conference outside of North America. The meeting in Brazil provides a gateway to the most active research centers both within the country as well as in neighboring South American countries. We expect to have a large number of researchers from North, Central and South America attending the meeting, forging new collaborations and exchanging cultural experiences. For animal behaviorists, one of the main attractions of Brazil is its enormous biodiversity. Additionally, Brazil is one of the most culturally and racially diverse countries in the world. The meeting will be held in the small, picturesque town of Pirenópolis, Goiás. The meeting venue will be the Pousada dos Pireneus (URL: <http://www.pousadadospireneus.com.br>), located near the town's historical center. Plenary Speakers: Richard Dawkins, Oxford University; Dan Rubenstein, Princeton University; and Marlene Zuk, University of California at Riverside. For additional information, see: (URL: <http://www.animalbehavior.org>). Contact: REGINA MACEDO (EM: rhfmacedo@unb.br).

***CALL FOR ABSTRACTS, Urban Wildlife Ecology and Management: An International Symposium on Urban Wildlife and the Environment, University of Massachusetts, Amherst 21-24 Jul 2009.** The Program Committee is soliciting abstracts for oral presentations and posters, to be submitted **by 2 Feb 2009**. Proposals for symposia and workshops also are being accepted, and persons with an interest should contact the Program Committee Chair, SETH RILEY (EM: seth_riley@nps.gov). Potential topics for presentations and symposia may include ecology of wildlife in urban areas, management of human-urban wildlife conflicts, improved conservation of urban wildlife through urban planning, landscape architecture, and wildlife-friendly development, and international urban wildlife ecology and management. Information on how to submit abstracts and more information on the conference are available at (URL: http://www.people.umass.edu/sdestef/urban_conference.html).

THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION will hold its 127th Stated Meeting in Philadelphia, **12-15 Aug 2009**. The meeting, co-hosted by Villanova University and the University of Pennsylvania, will take place on the UPenn campus. Dr. Robert Curry, Villanova University, is the Chair of the Committee on Local Arrangements; Dr. David White, UPenn, is the Local Host. The conference will feature three days of contributed scientific papers, posters, invited speakers, and symposia; evening events hosted by the Philadelphia Zoo and the Academy of Natural Sciences; special activities for students; and field trips before and after the conference, showcasing especially the peak of Delaware Bay shorebird migration. Accommodations at UPenn will include suite-style dormitory rooms and hotels adjacent to campus. The meeting's location will provide easy access to the many historical and cultural attractions of Philadelphia—the "birthplace of American ornithology. Deadline for presentation abstracts will be **1 May 2009**; the application deadline for student travel and presentation awards will be **1 Apr 2009**. For additional information, visit the conference web site (URL: <http://www.birdmeetings.org/aou2009/>); information about costs and registration will be available there soon.

RRF 2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE - SCOTLAND. For the first time in the society's history, the annual conference (2009) will be held outside of the Americas, to reflect the global interests of the membership. This historic six-day event will be held in Pitlochry, Scotland from **29 Sep - 4 Oct 2009**, hosted by the Scottish Raptor Study Group. Social events include an exclusive evening party at a magnificent Scottish castle and there are 11 fieldtrip options to some of the country's premiere wildlife sites, including the Isle of Mull and Speyside/Cairngorm Mountains. Numbers are limited to 300 delegates so early booking is advisable. Tickets are selling fast and to date, delegates from 23 countries have already registered. Please visit the conference website to find out how you can register.

25TH INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS 2010 Call for Symposia Proposals (**22-28 Aug 2010**) Campos do Jordão, Brazil. The Scientific Program Committee has been formed and a web page is in place (<http://www.i-o-c.org> or <http://www.ib.usp.br/25ioc>). We hope that you will circle these dates on your calendar and plan to attend! For further information, please contact PROF. DR. CRISTINA YUMI MIYAKI, Secretary-General of the 25th IOC (EM: ioc2010@ib.usp.br).

NEWS OF MEMBERS

DONALD BAEPLER, a member of the AOU, COS and WOS died 26 May 2008 at age 75. As a student, Don worked on the avifauna of Huehuetenango, Guatemala. He served as President of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and Chancellor of the Nevada System of Higher Education. Don was the Founder and Director of the Barrick Museum of Natural History at UNLV.

F. GRAHAM COOCH, member of the AOU since 1945, elected elective member in 1963, and fellow in 1986, died on 29 Aug 2008. He was a research scientist for the Canadian Wildlife Service and played a key role in the development of current policies and practices of wildlife management throughout North America. In addition, he helped initiate scientific exchanges with researchers in the former Soviet Union.

DR. MARIANNE ("MARIKA") GOSZTONYI AINLEY, Elective Member of the AOU, birdwatcher, historian, biographer, and contributor of major sections to Keir Sterling's unpublished history of the AOU, died on 26 Sep 2008.

THE FLOCK - SPECIAL SECTION

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

ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETIES OF NORTH AMERICA

5400 Bosque Blvd.
Suite 680, Waco, TX 76710

Address Service Requested

Moving??? PLEASE inform OSNA promptly of address change. Send this section of Newsletter (or a copy) with new address and phone no. Journals returned to OSNA with no address change made by members prior to publication will be remailed only after payment of return and remail costs.

**Periodicals Postage Paid
at Waco, Texas**

THE MOST RECENT NUMBERS of the Society journals and the month of mailing are: *Auk*, 2008, Vol. 125, #3 (Aug); *Condor*, 2008, Vol. 110, #3 (Oct); *J. Field Ornith.*, 2008, Vol. 79, #2 (Jun); *Raptor Res.*, 2008, Vol. 42, #3 (Sep); *Waterbirds*, 2008, Vol. 31, #3 (Nov); *Wilson J. Ornith.*, 2008, Vol. 120, #3 (Sep). Numbers follow at about 3-month intervals. If you are missing an issue, please contact OSNA. New members receive the first issue of the volume year. Please check your address label to confirm membership information and address.

THE NEXT NEWSLETTER will be issued in February. 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 January 2009**. Submittal by email (in the body of the email message--not an attached file) or on diskette (PC format: WordPerfect or ASCII) with hard copy; e-mail preferred. Items sent to the OSNA office may not reach the Editor in time. Items with a deadline date should be submitted at least 4 months in advance of that date to allow time for response.