

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 203

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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/>

NEW OSNA JOB BOARD – We have a new job board that allows real-time posting! Please visit (URL: <http://osnabirds.org/Jobs.aspx>) Members who are logged in to their OSNA accounts will be able post positions directly to the board. Non-members will still be able to have jobs posted, but for now, they must be submitted via email to the moderator as before; however posting will be much faster because the moderator will also have real-time posting. We hope you like the changes. Please feel free to send any comments and suggestions for improvements to the Ornithological Newsletter editor, Cheryl Trine (EM: ctrine@andrews.edu).

EDITOR and BOOK REVIEW EDITOR – The Wilson Ornithological Society is soliciting inquiries from people who have interest in serving as Editor of *The Wilson Journal of Ornithology* starting with Volume 125 (2013). Clait Braun will be completing 6 years of outstanding editorial work for the society and ornithological community at the end of 2012. The person selected will be expected to start **by 1 July 2012** by organizing their office, receiving manuscripts, and starting them through the review and editorial process. Their first Issue (March 2013) will need to be sent to the printer by 1 December 2012. Most of the manuscripts in that issue will be those that are already in the system. People with interest in serving as Editor should have broad experience in ornithology, a demonstrated track record in scientific writing and publication, editing, and ability to produce products (the Journal) on schedule. Ability to work with authors is a must.

In addition, Robert B. Payne, who has served admirably as BOOK REVIEW EDITOR since December 2008, has indicated his desire to step down as soon as a replacement can be found. The person selected for this volunteer position will be expected to receive books from publishers and select reviewers to produce timely reviews. We have been publishing about 6 Book Reviews in each Issue of the Journal but the number has varied from 4 to 7 per Issue. There is no stated tenure for this position and frequently Book Review Editors serve through at least the term of one and, at times, several Editors. Those interested in either the Editor or the Book Review Editor opportunities should contact Greg Farley (EM: gfarley@fhsu.edu) immediately. The Wilson Ornithological Society Council and the Publications Committee will be involved in review of potential candidates and selection of the next Editor and Book Review Editor of *The Wilson Journal of Ornithology*. All inquiries can be directed to GREG FARLEY or ROBERT C. BEASON, President of the Wilson Ornithological Society (EM: Robert.C.Beason@gmail.com).

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NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RAPTOR WORKSHOP: Accredited through University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point. Three 5-day workshops entitled "Introduction to Raptor Field Techniques" will be held in Stevens Point, WI by Eugene Jacobs of the Linwood Springs Research Station and Loren Ayers of the Wis. Dept. of Natural Resources. Fall Sessions: **22-26 Aug, 12-16 Sep and 10-14 Oct 2011**. Receive first hand experience working with: live raptors, capturing, handling, banding techniques, broadcast call surveys, tree climbing, rappelling, blood sampling and more. Cost is \$435 and space is limited, so register early. For more information and registration form visit (URL: <http://www.RaptorResearch.com>).

NEWS FROM THE ORNITHOLOGICAL COUNCIL

Provided by the Ornithological Council. Major funding for the Ornithological Council is provided by its twelve member societies: American Ornithologists' Union, Association of Field Ornithologists, CIPAMEX, Cooper Ornithological Society, Neotropical Ornithological Society, North American Crane Working Group, 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/>) or via paypal on the BIRDNET homepage at <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET>.

A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE: Spaces are going fast ... register soon if you are thinking of attending the conference on Animal Welfare Act compliance in the context of wildlife biology. This conference, to be held **26-28 Oct 2011** will convene speakers and participants from the various sectors that interact in the animal welfare arena: wildlife biologists, IACUC members, veterinarians, government officials from relevant agencies (primarily the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare of the National Institutes of Health and the USDA APHIS Animal Care program), and key private organizations such as AAALAC International, PRIM&R, and the Scientists Center for Animal Welfare. This is only the third time in a decade that a conference devoted to this subject has been offered, and it is a must for those who review wildlife research protocols and for those who conduct the research. The program will start with the well-known IACUC 101 program. This full day of didactic and interactive training provides IACUC members and researchers with basic IACUC training and supplemental guidance regarding field studies. An experienced faculty will address the PHS Policy, USDA animal welfare regulations, AAALAC recommendations, and IACUC responsibilities. The second and third days will focus on research involving wildlife (mammals, birds, and fish), such as:

- Diversity in use of wild animals in research (ecology, behavior, museum collecting, etc.)
- Application of regulations and guidance written for biomedical applications and domesticated animals to field studies and wild animals
- Compliance issues with free-ranging animals
- Classification of field techniques under USDA categories of pain and distress
- Euthanasia in the field
- Captive wildlife (quarantine, husbandry, behavioral enrichment, veterinary care)
- Compliance issues (quarantine, security, safety)

- Release of captive animals back to the field
 - Common field procedures - capture, marking, surgery etc.
 - Zoonoses, physical injury, and other hazards associated with field biology
 - Research v. management - when does the AWA apply?
 - The NIH and NSF assurance processes will be covered, as will key features of the recently revised Guide to the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (2010) insofar as they pertain to wildlife research
- FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER, VISIT <http://mysite.verizon.net/iacuc101/> or contact Ellen Paul (ellen.paul@verizon.net).

THE ORNITHOLOGICAL COUNCIL KEEPS FEDERAL EMPLOYEES OUT OF JAIL! - For years, the OC, together with other scientific societies including The Wildlife Society, the Society for Conservation Biology, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) have sought to eliminate or modify government policies - including a criminal statute! - that serve as a barrier to federal employees who wish to serve on the boards of outside organizations. Numerous scientific societies, including some of OC's member societies - have found that board members were told by their agencies that they would have to resign their board positions. In May 2011, we were pleased to see that our discussions with the Office of Government Ethics, the Office of Personnel Management, and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy had resulted in the proposal of a new policy by the Office of Government Ethics that would eliminate this problem in most cases. The Ornithological Council of course filed comments supporting the new policy and also circulated a sign-on letter that drew the signatures of 35 other scientific societies and consortia, including AAAS and the American Institute of Biological Sciences. While there is more to be done, this measure serves as a strong foundation for the further rectification of the problems encountered by scientists employed by federal agencies. If you are a federal employee and would like more information on this subject, please contact Ellen Paul (ellen.paul@verizon.net).

OC LEADS EFFORT TO SAVE PARTS OF THE USGS NATIONAL BIOLOGICAL INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE - Upon learning that the National Biological Information Infrastructure was to be terminated due to budget cuts, the OC lead an effort to persuade the USGS to retain certain parts of the NBII that are both of high value in terms of content and also centers of excellence. The letter to USGS Director Marcia McNutt, signed by The Wildlife Society, the Ecological Society of America, the American Institute of Biological Sciences, the National Council for Science and the Environment, and more than a dozen museums and bird conservation organizations, explained that "Many of us supported the original concept of the NBII and had been eager to see it achieve the goals established in the 1998 report of the President's Committee of Advisors on Science and Technology. Inadequate funding and other factors resulted in a program that fell far short of those goals. Thus, we are not surprised to learn that in the face of a critical shortage of resources, the USGS has decided to end this effort. We know that this funding could be diverted to better uses, such as providing more funding for USGS researchers who have been making do with exceedingly small and ever-shrinking operating expenses." However, we asked that the USGS retain specific components of the NBII that serve important functions for the nation, for other USGS programs, and for other Department of the Interior agencies and other federal agencies such as the Department of Defense and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Specifically, we asked that the Wildlife Disease Information Node and the Bird Conservation Node be retained and that USGS continue its participation in and support of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility, as well as its support of VERTNET and the associated collections databases, including ORNIS.

POSITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

The Positions and Opportunities section is available only in the on-line edition. It can be accessed at (<http://osnabirds.org/Jobs.aspx>). Submissions can be made any time and are posted free of charge. Members can post directly to the board after logging in to OSNA using their OSNA member log in. Non-members may have announcements posted by sending them to the Ornithological Newsletter Editor, Cheryl Trine (EM: citrine@andrews.edu) in the body of the email message.

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

GRANTS AND AWARDS

FOR INFORMATION ON CONTINUING GRANTS PROGRAMS relevant to ornithological research, visit: <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/grants/index.html>

RESEARCH GRANTS: ARIZONA FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS – This fall, for the first time, the Arizona Field Ornithologists association (AZFO; <http://www.azfo.org/index.html>) will make individual grants available for research on the state avifauna. We are particularly but not exclusively interested in projects investigating the status, distribution, and identification of the state birdlife. Up to two grants, each worth up to \$1000, will be awarded in 2011. Interested applicants are asked to visit the AZFO Gale Monson Research Grants web page (URL: <http://www.azfo.org/grants/grants.html>) for additional information including the grant application form, and they are encouraged to discuss potential research projects with DR. PIERRE DEVICHE (EM: deviche@asu.edu; phone: 480 965 0726), Chair of the grant application selection committee. Complete grant applications, including at least one letter of recommendation, URL: must be received **by 1 Sep 2011**. Awards will be announced by 1 Oct 2011.

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

THE BIRDS OF NEW JERSEY: Status and Distribution, William J. Boyle, Jr. 2011. Princeton University Press. 320 pp., 6 x 9, 202 color photos. 460 maps. ISBN: 9780691144108 (Paper \$24.95 / £16.95); ISBN: 9780691144092 (Cloth \$55.00 / £37.95); ISBN: 978-1-4008-3828-8 (e-Book, \$24.95). Featuring over 200 color photos of rarities and regular species, this book provides individual entries that include a summary of status and seasonal distribution, and comments on changes over time. Detailed color-coded maps accompany species accounts, and for species recorded five or fewer times, dates and locations of each record are noted. The introduction examines the state's geography, the history of bird records, and background information to species accounts, and the extensive bibliography guides birders to original sources used in the book.

AVIAN ARCHITECTURE: How Birds Design, Engineer, and Build, Peter Goodfellow, 2011. Princeton University Press. 160 pp., 8 x 10, 300 color illus. ISBN: 9780691148496 (Cloth, \$27.95 / £19.95). Like houses, nests come in an amazing variety of styles, designs, and locations. With this volume, readers will have an accessible, beautiful, and informative introduction to all forms of avian nest-building. Chapters are arranged by nest-type (platform nests, cup-shaped nests, mound nests, bowers, for example) and include blueprints, descriptions of materials and features, case studies, and illustrations and photography.

WHAT WERE THEY THINKING? IS POPULATION ECOLOGY A SCIENCE: Papers, Critiques, Rebuttals, and Philosophy. Bertram G. Murray, Jr. 2011, 289 p. Paper \$16.95, ebook \$7.95. Infinity Publishing, Conshohocken PA, 19428 (URL: <http://www.buybooksontheweb.com>). A compendium of unpublished essays and papers dealing with Murray's philosophy of science and his challenges to conventional wisdom on many fronts, including population biology, life history tables, clutch size, mating systems, the Mayfield Method, and laws in biology. Those willing to test new approaches and penetrate the obfuscations of editors and referees will find much of interest.

MEETINGS

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

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

* in this section indicates new or revised entry

THE 2011 MEETING of the Society of Canadian Ornithologists will be held in **Moncton, New Brunswick**, on **4-6 Aug 2011**. Early registration ends on **15 Jun**. Our meeting will feature a keynote presentation by Dr Bridget Stutchbury, a public conference by Dr Joël Bêty, and a symposium on human-related sources of bird mortality. The meeting also coincides with the first wave of Semipalmated Sandpipers migrating through the Bay of Fundy. A field trip should allow witnessing this spectacular event. All details can be found on our website (URL: http://www.sco-soc.ca/2011_conference.html).

4TH WESTERN HEMISPHERE SHOREBIRD GROUP CONFERENCE – **11-15 Aug 2011**, Vancouver BC Canada (URL: <http://www.sfu.ca/biology/wildberg/4WHSG/4WHSG.htm>).

THE WESTERN BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL MEETING will be held **12-14 Aug 2011** at Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge in northern Utah. Activities planned will include papers, posters, snowy plover banding, landbird banding, demonstrations of field techniques, and field trips to view the fall shorebird migration at various sites in the scenic Great Salt Lake area. For additional information on abstract submission and about WBBA's 2011 meeting, please visit the WBBA website (URL: <http://www.westernbirdbanding.org/next-meetings.html>).

THE THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE WESTERN FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS – Windemere Hotel and Conference Center Sierra Vista, Arizona, **17-21 Aug 2011**. The meeting will include presentations of research papers, workshops, featured speakers, social events and area field trips – general paper sessions, workshops, and identification panels will be included. For additional information on abstract submission and about WFO's 2011 meeting, please visit the WFO website (URL: <http://www.westernfieldornithologists.org/>). Contacts for the meeting are: ED PANDOLFINO, Meeting Committee Chair (EM: erpfromca@aol.com) and co-chairs of the Scientific Program: DEBBIE VAN DOOREMOLEN (EM: debbie.vandooremolen@snwa.com) and DAVE QUADY (EM: davequady@att.net).

RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION 2011 ANNUAL CONFERENCE – **5-9 Oct 2011**, Duluth, Minnesota. The Natural Resources Research Institute and Department of Biology at the University of Minnesota-Duluth will host the 2011 RRF conference in Duluth. Co-hosts include Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory and Duluth Audubon. In addition to the general topic sessions, the conference will feature symposia and

special-topic paper sessions on Raptors and Contaminants; Raptors and Wind Energy; Breeding Ecology, Distribution, and Movements of Aegolius Owls; Short-eared Owls: the need for a continental conservation plan; and Ecology & Conservation of Eastern North American Golden Eagles. For complete conference details, visit the website (URL: <http://www.raptorresearchfoundation.org/conferences/current-conference>).

IXTH NEOTROPICAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS (NOC) and VIIITH PERUVIAN ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS (COP) – The Neotropical Ornithological Society (NOS) and the Peruvian Ornithological Union (UNOP) are pleased to announce the IXth Neotropical Ornithological Congress (NOC) and VIIIth Peruvian Ornithological Congress (COP) to be held in the city of Cusco, Peru (**8-14 Nov 2011**). The objective of the congress is for interchange of information related to recent research and advances in the areas of ecology, evolution, systematics, and conservation of Neotropical birds and their habitats with colleagues from throughout the world. To obtain more information, please visit the congress web site (URL: <http://www.ixconperu2011.org>).

ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS – The Waterbird Society is pleased to announce its 35th and 2011 meeting, to be held in Annapolis, Maryland, **9-12 Nov 2011**. Simultaneous paper sessions will be held 9-11 November. The poster session will be held on Friday evening, 10 November. Deadline for submitting proposals for symposia: **1 Jul 2011**. Proposals should include 1-2 paragraph summary including rationale and list of proposed speakers with presentation titles, and should be sent to Scientific Program Chair, Katharine Parsons (EM: katharineparsons@gmail.com). Potential topics include but are not limited to: 1) conservation science of beach-nesting shorebirds, 2) first-year update of impacts of Deepwater Horizon oil spill on waterbirds, 3) assessing abundance and demographics of secretive marshbirds, 4) coordinated monitoring of colonially-nesting waterbirds, 5) restoration of wetland habitats in Chesapeake Bay, 6) transboundary management and conservation issues of seabirds, 7) new developments in tracking technology. Deadline for submitting abstracts for paper sessions and posters is **1 Sep 2011**. Detailed information about travel, accommodations, field trips, and other information along with the abstract submission and registration system is available on the Waterbird Society website (URL: <http://www.waterbirds.org/>).

BIOLIEF 2011 - 2nd World Conference on Biological Invasions and Ecosystem Functioning. Mar del Plata, Argentina, **21-24 Nov 2011**. BIOLIEF 2011 will be a forum for the presentation, discussion, and synthesis of research on biological invasions in its broadest sense. Contact: JORGE L. GUTIÉRREZ (EM: biolief@grieta.org.ar). For more information, visit our website (URL: <http://www.grieta.org.ar/biolief/>), and follow us in Facebook for news and updates (URL: <http://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/pages/BIOLIEF-2011/126444150720221?ref=sgm>).

QUAIL VII ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS – The Arizona Game and Fish Department and the National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative, University of Tennessee, invite you to the Seventh National Quail Symposium in **Tucson, Arizona, 9-12 Jan 2012**. Quail VII will feature the diversity in conservation of quails with field tours of areas supporting Gambel's, scaled and Mearns' quail and will highlight current management and research, including progress of the National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative and The Western Quail Plan. The meeting includes posters, oral presentations and a peer-reviewed proceedings. Proceedings from the quail symposia series can be found at (URL: http://gamebird.forestry.uga.edu/quailvi/previous/index_html). See (URL: <http://www.azgfd.gov/quailvii/>) for details.

5TH NORTH AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGICAL CONFERENCE, **14-18 Aug 2012, Vancouver, BC, Canada** on the University of British Columbia campus. NAOC web site (URL: <http://www.naoc-v2012.com>)

NEWS OF MEMBERS

GARY BORTOLOTTI, a Fellow of the AOU and a member of the RRF, passed away 3 Jul 2011 after a brief bout with leukemia. Gary was a faculty member of the Biology Department of the University of Saskatchewan since 1987. There he held the distinctions of being the Stuart and Mary Houston Professor of Ornithology and Rawson Professor of Biology

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@atandrews.edu).

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THE MOST RECENT NUMBERS of the Society journals and the month of mailing are: *Auk*, 2011, Vol. 128, #2 (May); *Condor*, 2011, Vol. 113, 1 (Mar), *J. Field Ornith.*, 2011, Vol. 82, #1 (Mar), *Raptor Res.*, 2011, Vol. 45, #1 (Mar), *Waterbirds*, 2011, Vol. 34, #1 (Mar), *Wilson J. Ornith.*, 2011, Vol. 123, #1 (Mar). 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 2011**. Submission 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 deadline dates should be submitted at least four months in advance of that date to allow time for response.