

# 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 205

DECEMBER 2011

## 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/>

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP AWARDS FOR THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION--Are you a student interested in joining the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU)? The AOU provides 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 electronic access to *The Auk*, the leading journal of ornithology. (2) You will receive electronic access to *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 be eligible to apply for travel awards to attend annual meetings, including the upcoming NAOC in Vancouver in 2012. (5) You will be eligible to apply for 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: Have no current or prior membership in the AOU; 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); 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 the Student Membership Awards organizer, Daniel Mennill (EM dmennill AT uwindsor DOT ca).

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR AOU AWARDS FOR 2012: Nominations are invited for the following AOU Awards. Nominations may be submitted electronically to the Chair of the Awards Committee, PATRICIA HEGLUND (EM: [Patricia\\_Heglund@fws.gov](mailto:Patricia_Heglund@fws.gov)) by **15 Feb 2012**.

- ELLIOTT COUES AWARD-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 include (1) the name, institution, and contact

information for the nominee, (2) a written letter that includes a description of the contributions of the nominee to ornithology, and (3) a CV of the nominee.

- WILLIAM BREWSTER MEMORIAL AWARD-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 include (1) the name, institution, and contact information for the nominee, (2) a written letter that includes a description of the contributions of the nominee to ornithology, and (3) a CV of the nominee.
- NED K. JOHNSON YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD-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. Nominations should be in the form of a written letter that includes (1) the name, institution, and contact information 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. Nominations should also include a CV of the nominee.
- RALPH W. SCHREIBER CONSERVATION AWARD-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. Nominations should include (1) the name, institution, and contact information for the nominee(s), (2) a CV of the nominee(s), and (3) a written letter that 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.

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 14 April 2012**. Officers will be elected by electronic and postal ballot prior to the meeting, and the new officers will be announced at the Business Meeting of Members. Officers to be elected will be President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and four Elective Councilors (three-year terms). At the conclusion of the 130th Stated Meeting, Susan M. Haig will begin her first year as President. The Bylaws of the AOU require that the Secretary and Treasurer be elected or re-elected annually. The incumbent Secretary (Sara R. Morris) and Treasurer (James Herkert) are willing to stand for re-election. Of the total of twelve Elective Councilors, four are elected annually to serve terms of approximately three years, beginning at the close of the Stated Meeting. Elective Councilors ending their terms at the conclusion of the 130th Stated Meeting in 2012 are Peter Arcese, Rebecca L. Holberton, J. Michael Reed, and Michael S. Webster.

ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWSLETTER (ISSN 0274-564X) is published bimonthly by OSNA, 5400 Bosque Blvd., Suite 680, Waco, TX 76710 ([business@osnabirds.org](mailto: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.

Continuing to serve in 2012-2013 will be Elective Councilors Irby J. Lovette, Ronald L. Mumme, Jennifer C. Owen, Scott K. Robinson, Kenneth V. Rosenberg, Ernesto Ruelas Inzunza, Brett K. Sandercock, and Kevin Winker. 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: secretary@aou.org).

NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP CLASSES OF Fellow and Elective Member of the AOU are **due 14 April 2012**. Fellows and Elective Members are encouraged to submit nominations of deserving colleagues. Nominations and full supporting information are to be supplied by the nominators. Lists of current Fellows and Elective Members are available on the AOU website (URL: <http://www.aou.org/membership/special.php3>). Nominators seeking to endorse a nominee must first obtain the instructions and forms for 2012, 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: secretary@aou.org). For ELECTIVE MEMBER nominations, the Secretary will compile and prepare information for electronic balloting. Current Fellows and Elective Members will be contacted in June 2012 with information about accessing the biographical information and instructions for voting. For FELLOW nominations, the Secretary will compile and prepare packets to be sent to current Fellows in May 2012. Voting will take place at the Fellows Meeting on the first evening of the NAOC-V in August. The names of the newly-elected Elective Members and Fellows will be announced at the Business Meeting of AOU members during the NAOC-V meeting.

THE AOU COMMITTEE ON NOMINATION OF FELLOWS AND ELECTIVE MEMBERS is beginning their work of preparing nominations for 2012. Any AOU member who would like to put forward a name for consideration by the committee should contact the chair of the committee, SCOTT LANYON (EM: lanyo001@umn.edu), **by 1 May 2012**.

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE *OPEN CONSERVATION BIOLOGY JOURNAL*-- Call for Papers to invite you to submit research articles, letters and reviews to the *Open Conservation Biology Journal*. This is an Open Access online journal which publishes research articles, letters and reviews in all areas of conservation biology and biodiversity. Please visit the journal's homepage and Instructions for Authors, for article submission, at the following website (URL: <http://www.benthameditorial.org/toconsbj>) or alternatively contact us by e-mail (EM: editorial@toconsbj.org) for submission guidelines. Bentham OPEN is one of the leading international publishers for Open Access journals in various disciplines. Please refer to Bentham OPEN's website (URL: <http://www.benthameditorial.org/AllOpenTitles>) for a current list of publications. Open access journals are freely available online for immediate worldwide open access to the full text of published articles. There are no subscription fees for open access journals. The modest open access publication costs are usually covered by the author's institution or research funds. Open access journals are no different from traditional subscription-based journals; they undergo the same peer-review and quality control as any other scholarly journal. Any queries should be addressed to editorial@toconsbj.org

"DOUBLE UP" FOR THE DUCKS--Ducks Unlimited is asking duck hunters and other waterfowl enthusiasts to "double up for the ducks" by purchasing two federal duck stamps this year. Since 1934, the Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, commonly known as the federal duck stamp, has played a pivotal role in expanding access to the outdoors by adding more than 5.3 million acres of waterfowl habitat to the National Wildlife Refuge System. "The federal duck stamp has been an important tool in waterfowl habitat conservation for

77 years, but its ability to purchase and conserve important waterfowl habitat has been greatly diminished by inflation and rising land prices," DU CEO Dale Hall said. "The purpose of the "Double Up for the Ducks" campaign is to show that hunters support the program and are willing to pay more for the duck stamp in order to conserve waterfowl habitat. We view the duck stamp as an investment in conservation, not as a tax on hunters." This effort is part of a larger campaign currently being led by Ducks Unlimited to increase the price of the federal duck stamp.

While the federal duck stamp has proved a valuable conservation tool, its buying power has not kept pace with inflation. The cost of the stamp has not increased since 1991, marking the longest period in the program's history without a price increase. Simply put, \$15 is not what it used to be. Based on the Consumer Price Index, the stamp would need to cost \$24.26 today to have the same buying power that \$15 had in 1991. In 1991, revenue from the duck stamp enabled the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to acquire 89,000 acres of habitat for the National Wildlife Refuge System at an average cost of \$306 per acre. In 2010, the USFWS was able to acquire only 32,000 acres because land values had tripled to an average of \$1,091 per acre. "Increasing the price of the duck stamp will take an act of Congress," DU Chief Conservation Officer Paul Schmidt said. "To get Congress to act, waterfowl hunters must show their elected officials that their constituents care about conservation issues. The increased sales that will occur when hunters 'double up' on duck stamps will help conserve more habitat and also show Congress that hunters are serious about this issue." Visit the DU website, (URL: <http://www.ducks.org>) for more information.

TOO MANY PHARMACIES IN INDIA IGNORE DEADLY DRUG BAN – The drug diclofenac is responsible for practically wiping out three species of *Gyps* vultures endemic to the region. The manufacture and sale of diclofenac for veterinary use has been illegal since 2006, when in May of that year the Indian Government banned diclofenac for veterinary use. Similar bans in Nepal and Pakistan followed shortly thereafter. Increased measures in India in August 2008 put additional restrictions on the manufacture, sale and distribution of diclofenac and its formulations for livestock use, along with violations being punishable by imprisonment. Unfortunately, farmers and livestock owners in the region continue to purchase human diclofenac illegally in conveniently available large bottles to treat their animals. In fact, over a third of Indian pharmacies are ignoring a ban on a veterinary drug that has brought the country's vultures to the brink of extinction, according to a new study in the science journal *QRYX*. From November 2007 to June 2010, more than 250 veterinary and general pharmacies in 11 Indian states were surveyed. When specifically asked if non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs for treating cattle were available, diclofenac was recorded in 36 percent of the cases. Lead author of the study, Dr. Richard Cuthbert, said: "Preventing the misuse of human diclofenac for veterinary use remains the main challenge in halting the decline of endangered vultures." While the research shows that there is still widespread availability of diclofenac, it also shows an increase in the availability of meloxicam (found in 70 per cent of pharmacies), a drug that has very similar therapeutic effects on livestock as diclofenac, yet is apparently safe for vultures. For more information, see here: <http://tinyurl.com/3shnss8>

## 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.

THE ANNUAL PLEDGE BREAK: THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE ORNITHOLOGICAL COUNCIL! - Society membership renewal notices will soon land in your inbox....and we hope that when you renew, you will consider contributing to the Ornithological Council. 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 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 (American Ornithologists' Union, Association of Field Ornithologists, Cooper Ornithological Society, Raptor Research Foundation, Waterbird Society, and Wilson Ornithological Society), can contribute directly through the PayPal button on our homepage (URL: <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/index.html>) using your free PayPal account or a credit card or by check (payable to the Ornithological Council and mailed to 5107 Sentinel Drive, Bethesda MD 20816, USA). Thank you for helping the Ornithological Council in its efforts to keep the world safe for ornithology!

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, that is used by scientists, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees, and government agencies).
- Peer-reviewed guidance on the impacts of West Nile Virus and H5N1 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, and other zoonotic disease on ornithological research.
- Comprehensive guides for obtaining permits for import of specimens and live birds, permits to work on federally managed public lands, and state permitting.
- 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. Others know us only through the *Ornithological Newsletter* or listservs, and have not yet needed individual assistance. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve the ornithologists and the ornithological community as a whole. 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>).

Most of the support for the Ornithological Council is provided by our eleven member societies, which support the OC as an important benefit for their members. However, support from individual ornithologists is also an important source of funding for OC's efforts to "keep the world safe for ornithology." Thank you to all who have contributed in the past. We appreciate your support!

FEDERAL DATA SHARING AND ARCHIVING REQUIREMENTS - On 4 Nov 2011, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy requested that interested individuals and organizations provide recommendations on approaches for ensuring long-term stewardship and encouraging broad public access to unclassified digital data that result from federally funded scientific research. In short: data archiving and sharing. A multi-agency working group has been formed to consider steps that can be taken by Federal agencies to encourage and coordinate the development of agency policies and standards to promote long term preservation of and access to digital data resulting from federally funded scientific research. Ideally, such policies would harmonize, to the extent practicable and feasible, data management plans for digital data that are collected or otherwise produced either by the agency itself or extramurally with Federal funds. Meanwhile, NSF in January 2011 reaffirmed its data management policy requirement, indicating that proposals must include a Data Management Plan that describes how funded researchers will conform to NSF policy on the dissemination and sharing of research results. The NSF policy is clear that "Investigators are expected to share with other researchers, at no more than incremental cost and within a reasonable time, the primary data, samples, physical collections and other supporting materials created or gathered in the course of work under NSF grants." Such models may not necessarily be appropriate for all types of federally sponsored research.

USDA "RATS, MICE, BIRDS" REGULATION DELAYED - The original regulations implementing the Animal Welfare Act expressly excluded rats, mice, and birds. After litigation in 2000, the USDA agreed to change its regulations to include rats, mice, and birds. However, before the USDA could promulgate regulations pertaining to rats, mice, and birds, the U.S. Congress, by way of a provision in the 2002 Farm Bill codified the exclusion of rats, mice, and birds. Unfortunately, a typographical error in the final legislation had the effect of excluding ONLY birds bred for use in research. The USDA has been working on regulations to implement this new definition for several years. In 2004, the USDA APHIS Animal Care program published an advance notice of public rulemaking, asking for "comments from the public to help determine how we should regulate the care and use of those animals." The OC filed comments, suggesting, among other things, that given the number of wild bird species, the enormous variation among species, and the lack of experience and information pertaining to the keeping of most species in captivity that regulations would necessarily have to be very flexible and nonspecific. Further, that inspection of field sites was unrealistic at best given that the USDA does not have enough inspectors, much less inspectors knowledgeable in field biology, to inspect field sites and that it would be unreasonable to expect wildlife biologists to bear the costs of such inspections. Those comments and other information were considered by the USDA when writing the new regulations, which were expected to be released by the end of 2011. However, at a conference on Animal Welfare Act compliance in the context of wildlife biology, organized by OC and the American Society of Mammalogists (26-28 Oct 2011; see <http://mysite.verizon.net/iacuc101/>), USDA officials announced that the proposed regulation, which was still under review within the USDA, would be delayed due to concerns about the ability of the agency to implement the regulation given the need for a very substantial increase in the number of USDA inspectors at a time when agency budgets are shrinking. It is not known when the regulations will be published for public comment. \*\* Lest anyone conclude that the Ornithological Council or its member societies oppose the oversight of wild birds studied in research, we refer you to the introductory material in our *Guidelines to the Use of Wild Birds in Research*: (URL: [http://www.nmnh.si.edu...\\_August2010.pdf](http://www.nmnh.si.edu..._August2010.pdf)), and specifically this text:

*The Ornithological Council believes strongly that birds, both wild and captive-bred, should be treated humanely, both in the laboratory and in research conducted in the wild. It is for this reason that we publish this peer-reviewed Guidelines to the Use of Wild Birds in Research. Our objection to the inclusion of birds in the Animal Welfare Act regulations is based solely on the fact that it is likely to impose additional burdens on research without producing an improvement in the humane treatment of birds, because, as explained below, this research is already regulated under the Health Research Extension Act of 1985, which makes the Animal Act applicable to all vertebrates. We object only to duplicative and potentially conflicting sets of regulations and burdensome procedural compliance, without contributing to the humane treatment of birds in research.*

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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>

**CELEBRATE URBAN BIRDS** -- The Cornell Lab of Ornithology's "Celebrate Urban Birds" project is accepting applications for mini-grants to fund neighborhood events that promote an appreciation for birds and nature. Grants average \$250-\$500. Celebrate Urban Birds mini-grants could be used to support a bird-activity day at a local museum, afterschool program, library, or community center, or fund art and gardening activities at clubs, businesses, schools, senior centers, or neighborhoods. Events or projects could feature activities involving birds, community service, art, greening, and science. Participants are encouraged to collect simple information about common birds and report to the Cornell Lab. To learn more, download a flyer, and apply for a mini-grant, visit <http://www.CelebrateUrbanBirds.org>. Organizations working with underserved communities are strongly encouraged to apply. Deadline to apply is **15 December 2011**. Celebrate Urban Birds is a free, year-round citizen science project from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Participants watch birds in their neighborhoods and report what they see. This information helps scientists better understand how birds survive in cities and make use of green spaces, including parks and gardens.

## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

*CONSERVATION OF TROPICAL BIRDS*, by Navjot S Sodhi, Cagan H Sekercioglu, Jos Barlow and Scott Robinson, 2011. Wiley-Blackwell. 312 pages. ISBN: 978-1-4443-3482-1 (hardcover). Written by four conservation biologists, it covers all the major issues in tropical bird conservation. Because birds are key indicators of ecosystem health and are such a well-studied group of organisms, it also provides an engaging synopsis of the general issues in conservation and the problems faced by other wildlife.

*WINGED SENTINELS: BIRDS AND CLIMATE CHANGE* by Janice Wormworth and Cagan H. Sekercioglu, 2011. Cambridge University Press. 296 pages, 40+ photographs, 8.9" x 5.8". ISBN-10: 0521126827 (paperback). This volume provides in-depth examples of the effects of climate change on over 50 species of birds - from penguins and puffins, to bowerbirds and bar-tailed godwits. It takes a global approach, including examples from Europe, North and South America, Africa, Australia and Antarctica. The book is a fascinating insight into what climate change means for birds, and the potential consequences of ignoring these warning signs.

*RIDDLE OF THE FEATHERED DRAGONS: Hidden Birds of China*. by Alan Feduccia. 2012. Yale University Press. 368 p., 7 x 10, 242 b/w illus., ISBN: 9780300164350 (cloth, \$55.00). Examining and interpreting recent spectacular fossil discoveries in China, paleontologists have arrived at a prevailing view: there is now incontrovertible evidence that birds represent the last living dinosaur. But is this conclusion beyond dispute? In this book, evolutionary biologist Alan Feduccia provides the most comprehensive discussion yet of the avian and associated evidence found in China. He considers why and how the debate has become so polemical and makes a plea to refocus the discussion by "breaking away from methodological straitjackets and viewing the world of origins anew." Drawing on a lifetime of study, he offers his own current understanding of the origin of birds and avian flight. (URL: <http://yalepress.yale.edu/reviews.asp?isbn=9780300164350>).

The latest addition to the Princeton Illustrated Checklist series is *BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA AND GREENLAND* by Norman Arlott. 2011. Princeton University Press. ISBN: 9780691151403 (Paper, \$15.95) The checklist covers over 900 species in 102 color plates, but still fits in your back pocket or pack. Facing pages contain succinct identification information and maps alongside gorgeous color illustrations. For a sneak peek at some interior pages, check out the Birdbooker Report (URL: <http://birdbookerreport.blogspot.com/2011/09/preview-of-forthcoming-title.html>).

## 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

**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. See (URL: <http://www.azqfd.gov/quailvii/>) for details. Proceedings from the quail symposia series can be found at (URL: <http://gamebird.forestry.uqa.edu/quailvii/previous/index.html>).

**\*5<sup>TH</sup> NORTH AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS, 14-18 Aug 2012**, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.

- The STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE is busy planning a variety of activities for students and young professionals at the conference:

Student-Professional Ornithological Social - Professionals and students will be grouped by research interest, and may network over a free Barbeque dinner! Registration is open to all students and by invitation to professionals, please contact LAURA STEWART to sign up (EM: [lrstewart@neo.tamu.edu](mailto:lrstewart@neo.tamu.edu)). Major Sponsor: Wilson Ornithological Society.

Student-mentor lunch - Students will be matched with mentors of their choice, to have a one-on-one sit-down lunch. Free registration is open to all students and by invitation to professionals. Please contact TYLER FLOCKHART to sign up (EM: [dflockha@uoguelph.ca](mailto:dflockha@uoguelph.ca)); Major Sponsor: American Ornithologists' Union.

Quiz Bowl - All conference attendees are welcome to participate and attend this jeopardy-style BIRD trivia game! If you are interested in forming a team, please contact RYAN GERMAIN (EM: [rgermain@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:rgermain@interchange.ubc.ca)); Major Sponsor: Society of Canadian Ornithologists.

Media workshop - "Getting the message out: How to communicate your research effectively through the media" In this workshop, researchers will learn how to craft their message to elicit public interest, how to use the appropriate forms of media to communicate their message beyond the traditional academic community, and how to give effective interviews with journalists. Participation in this workshop will be limited to 50 participants, and is open to anyone but preference will be given to students and early career professionals. To register, please contact ANDREA NORRIS (EM: [arnorris@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:arnorris@interchange.ubc.ca)); Major Sponsor: TerreWEB, University of British Columbia.

Silent auction - The student affairs committee is holding a silent auction to raise funds for future student activities. Items will be displayed at a prominent location at the conference, where conference participants will bid on their favorite items. These items may include books, field equipment, artwork (including prints of nice bird photos!), jewelry, consulting services, photography equipment, or anything else that you think other bird-minded people might enjoy. Have anything to donate? Please contact KIM DOHMS (EM: [kim.dohms@uleth.ca](mailto:kim.dohms@uleth.ca)).

If you are a student interested in volunteering on the student affairs committee for the NAOC, please contact ANDREA NORRIS (EM: [arnorris@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:arnorris@interchange.ubc.ca)).

- PRE-REGISTRATIONS – As of mid-October pre-registrations stand at 120 comprising approx. 60:40% professionals to students from 14 different countries. Please pre-register in order to assist the organizing committees in planning the conference and be the first to receive news and updates via email.
- IMPORTANT DEADLINES UPDATED – as of 25 Oct 2011 (more details to follow) 1. Student Travel Awards and Latin American Travel Awards, Open in early Nov 2011, Deadline: **15 Jan 2012**. 2. Regular Abstract Submission: 20 Jan 2012 to **29 Feb 2012**. 3. Student Presentation Awards: 20 January 2012 to **29 Feb 2012**. 4. Abstract Acceptance by SPC (all talks): **30 Apr 2012**. 5. Registration: Early Bird - 20 Jan to 15 May 2012 (ends at 2359 PST); Regular - 16 May to 5 Aug 2012 (ends at 2359 PST); Onsite (Late) - 14 to 18 Aug 2012.
- LATIN AMERICAN AWARDS TO ATTEND THE NAOC-V – To encourage the participation of Latin Americans in the V North American Ornithological Conference to be held from 14-18 August 2012 in Vancouver, Canada, the ornithological societies sponsoring NAOC-V are offering travel awards to Latin American students and young professionals. To be eligible for an award, candidates should be resident in a Latin American country, defined as the region from Mexico in North America, through Central American and the Caribbean to South America. Students at undergraduate, Masters, or PhD level, as well as recent graduates (after 1 Jul 2011), may apply for travel awards. Young Latin American professionals, resident in Latin America, who have graduated at any level within the last three years (after 1 Jul 2009), are also eligible for Latin American Travel Awards. Applicants should be first and presenting author of a contributed oral or poster presentation in NOAC-V, and should be an active member, with membership fees current for 2012, of at least one of the ornithological societies participating in the conference. The deadline for travel award applications is **15 Jan 2012**, and full details can be obtained from the conference web page (URL: <http://www.naoc-v2012.com/latin-american-awards>).

For complete conference details see the NAOC-V website (URL: <http://www.naoc-v2012.com/>).

\*THE 130<sup>TH</sup> STATED MEETING OF THE AOU will be held as part of the Fifth North American Ornithological Conference (NAOC-V) at the University of British Columbia, **14-18 Aug 2012** (see above).

\*INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS OF SOUTHEAST ASIA - Phuket, Thailand, **27-29 Nov 2012**. There are three days of scientific program with symposia, workshops, presentations and posters, room for discussion and field trips to exciting ornithological areas. We would like to invite all professional and amateur ornithologists, local or international, interested in any aspects relating to birds in Southeast Asia to join us at an International Ornithological Congress. The scientific program of plenary talks, oral presentations, symposia, workshops, and poster sessions will be complemented by social events, a conference banquet, a welcome evening, and a range of post conference tours. This bird conference is the first organized specifically for Southeast Asian birds. It is our hope that it will become a regular event in the region in future years. If you are interested in this bird congress and would like to be kept updated with further information, please send us your details (URL: <http://www.sc.psu.ac.th/iocsea/registerinterest.html>). All ornithologists are invited to contribute oral and/or poster presentations to the scientific sessions. To apply for a place follow instructions for online submission on the conference website. Currently, we accept proposals for workshop or symposia only. Please follow the instructions on the webpage and submit the proposal to SWEN RENNER via Email only: (EM: [swen.renner@uni-ulm.de](mailto:swen.renner@uni-ulm.de)) by **15 Feb 2012**. Submission of oral/poster presentations as well as registration for the conference will open shortly thereafter. For details, deadlines and news please have a look at the webpage which will be updated regularly (URL: <http://www.harrison-institute.org/IOCSEA/index.html>).

## NEWS OF MEMBERS

ERNEST P. "BUCK" EDWARDS, a member of the WOS since 1947, died on 27 Sep 2011 in Lynchburg, VA, at the age of 92. He wrote several books and field guides including, *Finding Birds in Mexico*, *Finding Birds in Panama*, *A Field Guide to the Birds of Mexico and Adjacent Areas* and *A Field Guide to the Birds of Shenandoah National Park*, *Blue Ridge Parkway*, and *Great Smoky Mountains National Park*.

ÇAĞAN ŞEKERCIOĞLU was honored to be elected as a National Geographic Emerging Explorer in 2011. To learn more about the Emerging Explorer awards, visit (URL: <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/field/grants-programs/emerging-explorers/>).

RALF WANKER, a member of the AOU since 1994 and the AFO since 1997, tragically died on the 6th of September 2011.

## 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](mailto:business@osnabirds.org), PH: 254-399-9636, FX: 254-776-3767) or change it yourself online (URL: <http://www.osnabirds.org>). To alert your colleagues of new address information, contact the *Ornithological Newsletter* Editor, CHERYL L. TRINE (EM: [ctrine@andrews.edu](mailto:ctrine@andrews.edu)).

**ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETIES  
OF NORTH AMERICA**5400 Bosque Blvd.  
Suite 680, Waco, TX 76710

Address Service Requested

**Periodicals Postage**Paid at  
Waco, Texas

---

THE MOST RECENT NUMBERS of the Society journals and the month of mailing are: *Auk*, 2011, Vol. 128, #4 (Nov); *Condor*, 2011, Vol. 113, #3 (Aug), *J. Field Ornith.*, 2011, Vol. 82, #3 (Sep), *Raptor Res.*, 2011, Vol. 45, #3 (Sep), *Waterbirds*, 2011, Vol. 44, #3 (Sep), *Wilson J. Ornith.*, 2011, Vol. 123, #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 2012**. 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.