

Ornithological Newsletter

American Ornithologists' Union
Cooper Ornithological Society
Waterbird Society

Association of Field Ornithologists
Raptor Research Foundation
Wilson Ornithological Society

Cheryl L. Trine, Editor

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ORGANIZATION NEWS

THE ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWSLETTER ON-LINE can be found 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 ASSOCIATION OF FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS held its Annual Meeting in Ogden, UT, 12-15 August 2010. JOHN CAVITT, Weber State University, chaired the Local Committee.

* There were two plenary presentations: CRAIG BENKMAN, Univ. of Wyoming, spoke on "The Rise and Fall of Crossbill," and CHARLES DUNCAN, Director of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network, spoke on "The Shorebird Recovery Project: Site-based Conservation, Science and Success Measures at a Hemispheric Scale."

* The following students received Travel Awards from the AFO so that they could present their research: CHRISTOPHER J. W. MCCLURE, Auburn University; MALLORY J. BRODRICK, Sam Houston State University; KEITH BOWERS, Illinois State University; LUIS ESTEBAN VARGAS, Universidad de Costa Rica, Costa Rica; REBECCA KERN, University of Delaware; LINDA LAIT, University of Lethbridge, Canada; VICTOR HUGO MENDOZA RODRÍGUEZ, Institute for Scientific and Technological Research of San Luis Potosi, Mexico; JASON TOWNSEND, Syracuse University; REBECCA CROSTON, Hunter College of the City, University of New York; ELLEN ROBERTSON, University of Maine; RUTE ALEXANDRA PAIS COSTA, Universidade do Minho, Braga, Portugal; MATT MCKIM-LOUDER, University of Illinois.

* Elected to new or continuing terms as AFO officers were: L. SCOTT JOHNSON, President; KATHRYN PURCELL, Vice President; LEE ROBINSON, Secretary; GREGORY SHRIVER, Treasurer.

* Elected to the AFO Council, Class of 2013 were DANIEL ARDIA, PAUL HAMEL, DYLAN MADDOX, JOHN MCCARTY, ANDREA TOWNSEND.

* The next annual meeting of the Association of Field Ornithologists will be held in conjunction with the annual meetings of the Wilson Ornithological Society and the Cooper Ornithological Society, from **9-13 Mar 2011**, in Kearney, Nebraska, to coincide with the northward migration of Sandhill Cranes. MARY BOMBERGER BROWN, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, is the local chair.

* The Association of Field Ornithologists awarded its fourth Alexander Skutch Medal to JOHN P. O'NEILL. The Skutch medal recognizes career accomplishments, particularly in research relating to life history studies of Neotropical birds. A goal of the award is to recognize individuals whose careers will stand as models of excellence in Neotropical ornithology. Dr. O'Neill is renowned as one of America's foremost bird illustrators, and his fieldwork in Peru has led to the discovery of more species of birds than any other living naturalist, including three new genera. Among his many accomplishments is

the recent publication of *Birds of Peru*, an outstanding field guide to the birds of this remarkable country. In addition to scientific publications and pursuits, O'Neill has made his life's work accessible to the public through hundreds of articles and paintings published in magazines, books, non-profit newsletters, newspapers, and exhibitions in museums throughout the U.S. and many foreign countries.

OUTSTANDING STUDENT PRESENTATION AWARDS were presented at the 2010 annual meeting of the AFO at Weber State University, Ogden, UT. Best Student Oral Presentation Awards were given to JASON M. TOWNSEND, SUNY-College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, NY for his presentation, "Catharus thrushes as bioindicators of mercury hotspots: from the Catskills to the Caribbean" and to LINDA LAIT, University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta for her presentation, "The population structure and postglacial expansion of the Boreal Chickadee (*Poecile hudsonicus*)." The Best Undergraduate Student Poster Presentation Award was given to LUIS ESTEBAN VARGAS, Universidad de Costa Rica for his poster, "Forest structure and territory size relationship in the neotropical understory insectivore White-breasted Wood-wren, *Henicorhina leucosticta*," The Best Graduate Student Poster Presentation Award was given to CHRISTOPHER J. W. MCCLURE, Auburn University for his poster, "Interpreting breeding bird survey data in the face of climate change." The AFO thanks BFW Publishing Co., Cornell University Press, Princeton University Press, Sinauer Publishing Co., and Wiley-Blackwell Publishing Co. for donating prizes for these students.

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP AWARDS 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 be eligible to attend AOU meetings at the student member rate and apply for numerous travel awards to attend annual meetings (only members can apply for student travel support; July 2011 meeting in Florida; August 2012 meeting in Vancouver). (5) You will be eligible to apply for AOU student research grants that offer thousands of dollars to support high quality research (only members can apply for student research awards). (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 apply, 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, the candidate's academic and/or work experience, and interests in ornithology (electronic documents please). 3. Ask their academic advisor to provide a short note indicating support for the application, on institutional letterhead from the institution in which the student is currently enrolled (electronic documents please). 4. Include in their application the specific address where they would like *The Auk* and *Ornithological Monographs* to be mailed, if their application is successful. Awards are not renewable, but previous 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/>) ... click on "Join / Renew"). Forward your application electronically the Student Membership Awards organizer, DANIEL MENNILL (EM: dmennill@uwindsor.ca).

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THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION WILL HOLD ITS 129TH STATED MEETING, **24-29 Jul 2011** in Jacksonville, FL. We hereby invite proposals for symposia and workshops. Symposia proposals should include: (1) title of symposium, (2) a 2-5 sentence rationale for the symposium's topic, (3) names, contact information, and presentation topics of presenting speakers and 1-2 alternate speakers, and (4) requested length of symposium (whole day or half day). Before submitting the proposal, organizers are strongly encouraged to contact potential participants and receive at least tentative commitments from them to attend. Symposia typically include 6-8 presentations in 30 minute segments (25 minutes for presentation, 5 minutes for questions). Workshop proposals should include (1) title of workshop, (2) a 2-5 sentence rationale for the workshop's topic, (3) names and contact information of the workshop's leaders, (4) short description of target audience, (5) requested length of workshop, and (5) anticipated format and requested resources (e.g., projection equipment, large table). Symposium presenters and organizers are expected to pay registration fees and travel expenses; the AOU cannot provide financial assistance. We encourage symposium and workshop organizers to seek external funds to support participants' expenses. The deadline for submission of symposium and workshop proposals is **31 Dec 2010**. Please submit proposals (Word or PDF attachment) to ROB FLETCHER (EM: robert.fletcher@ufl.edu).

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW BLOG WEBSITE for the Canadian Centre of Ornithology is located at (URL: <http://enviroquestltd.com/cco>)

NEW MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CONSERVATION MEDICINE DEGREE PROGRAM, Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, North Grafton, MA. 01536 USA The continued emergence of new diseases from wild animals, the effects of human activities on endangered species, and the impact of climate change on biodiversity are just a few of the topics to be examined in a new and novel Master of Science in Conservation Medicine degree program at Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine. The MS in Conservation Medicine is designed to prepare students from varied backgrounds for a career in conservation medicine. This twelve-month, full-time program will build upon an individual student's disciplinary strengths, provide foundational knowledge in emerging conservation medicine issues and applications, foster interdisciplinary collaborations, and create opportunities to master and practice skills necessary to be successful leaders in the conservation health arena. Since many disciplines are involved in conservation medicine, the MS in Conservation Medicine program seeks a diversity of backgrounds, including veterinarians, natural and social scientists, engineers, public health and medical professionals, lawyers, policy and wildlife professionals, and others interested in applying their expertise to conservation medicine issues. Deadline for applications is **1 Apr 2011**. Classes start Fall 2011. For more information and to apply on-line visit (URL: <http://www.tufts.edu/vet/mcm/>).

BIRD STUDY-SKIN DATA at Columbia-Greene Community College is now searchable on line (URL: <http://www.sunycgcc.edu/includes/AcademicDepartments/Science/Specimens/index.cfm>). Over 2000 specimens are in the database. Measurements of wing chord and bill length (from anterior edge of nostril) are included.

NEWS FROM THE ORNITHOLOGICAL COUNCIL

Provided by 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: URL: <http://www.osnabirds.org/>) or via paypal on the BIRDNET homepage (URL: <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET>).

Thank you for helping the Ornithological Council in its efforts to keep the world safe for ornithology!

ORNITHOLOGICAL COUNCIL COMMENTS ON SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY CODE proposed by the U.S. Department of the Interior - For a number of years, the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) has made attempts to comply with a directive issued in 2000 by the White House Office of Science and Technology (OSTP) to all federal agencies to develop a research misconduct policy consistent with the government-wide policy developed by the OSTP. In 2009, the Obama administration ordered OSTP to assure scientific integrity on the part of the federal government; at that time, DOI had yet to develop either a research misconduct policy or a scientific integrity policy though two of its agencies (USGS and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) had developed policies of their own. This lack of compliance was the subject of a critical report issued by the DOI Inspector General (an independent "watchdog" office) in April 2010 (URL: <http://www.doiig.gov/images/stories/reports/pdf/ScientificIntegrityPolicy.pdf>). Together with highly publicized cases of the suppression and distortion of scientific information by DOI officials, this report and the underlying lack of an integrity policy undermined confidence in the science published and used by DOI in making decisions to conserve and manage the natural resources entrusted to the Department. In September 2010, DOI attempted to remedy this situation by issuing for comment a proposed policy. Scientific societies, including the Ornithological Council, scrambled to analyze the proposal and to prepare comments in the inexplicably short 20-day comment period. The OC comments pointed out the lack of procedural safeguards for researchers accused of misconduct and pointed out the absence of policy prohibiting political interference with the generation or publication of scientific information. Only 10 days after the close of the comment period, the DOI issued its policy in the form of a Director's Order making clear that "DOI employees, political and career, must never suppress or alter, without new scientific or technological evidence, scientific or technological findings and conclusions." The Order calls for the development of a new chapter of the DOI Manual that will establish new requirements for the professional conduct and management of scientific activities and the use of scientific information by and on behalf of the Department. The Order is otherwise short on detail. The Ornithological Council will attempt to track the development of the text for the DOI Manual but there is no right to public comment on internal agency policy.

STATE AGENCIES, BUDGET CUTS, PERMIT DELAYS - For some time, we have been warning that budget cuts in state agencies would lead to reductions in force and a reduction in services, including the issuance of permits. In California, this situation has become extreme, with permit renewals taking six months (or, in the case of species of management concern, 50 weeks). Recently, The OC wrote to the California Department of Fish and Game to request that the agency adopt a policy similar to that of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for Migratory Bird Treaty Act permits, which provides that any person holding a valid, renewable permit may continue the activities authorized by the expired permit until the Service acts on the application for renewal if the permit is currently in force and not suspended or revoked and the permit holder has filed an application for renewal at least 30 days prior to the expiration date of the current permit. Doing so would avert lengthy interruptions of the work of the researchers who study the wildlife of California. We pointed out that apart from the impact on the ability of these researchers to do their jobs, an interruption of research would also interrupt the flow of scientific information that aids the agency in managing and conserving the California's wildlife. NEW YORK may be next! Governor David Paterson has ordered the layoff of as many as 849 employees of the N.Y. State Department of Environmental Conservation - a drastic reduction that will almost certainly impact the issuance of permits. If you experience lengthy delays in permit issuance or renewal as a result of state budget cuts and layoffs, please contact the Ornithological Council and we will encourage the state agency to develop policies and practices to mitigate the problem.

USFWS PROPOSES NEW MIGRATORY BIRD PERMIT AND OTHER POLICY CHANGES - The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Migratory Bird Management on 21 Sep 2010 proposed to create a new permit that would allow the possession and use of species protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act for educational programs. To qualify for the permit, an

institution would be required to offer a minimum of 12 programs that are open to the general public each year with each bird or specimen held under the permit; or if the facility is open to the public and the birds and/or specimens are displayed, but not used in programs, the facility must be open to the public at least 400 hours per year according to a regular, publicized schedule. The Ornithological Council submitted comments to the USFWS asking that the regulation, when published in final form, be revised to clarify that those who already hold permits to take or possess protected bird species need not obtain this new permit in order to use those birds, bird specimens, or parts in educational programs. In addition, the USFWS has proposed to allow entities that are exempt from permit requirements to "... accept such specimens from members of the public who, without a permit, pick them up. Those persons would be exempt from the permit requirement for such one-time salvage provided they promptly donate the specimens to a person or institution authorized to possess the specimens by permit or permit exception" provided the specimen is promptly donated to an exempt or permitted entity for scientific or educational purposes. Institutions accepting these donations must keep accurate and complete records of all migratory bird specimens in their possession and their source, including the name and address of all donors and transferees, for 5 calendar years following the end of the calendar year covered by the records. The Ornithological Council has for some years urged the USFWS to allow this practice and we have applauded and thanked the agency for proposing this new policy. Finally, the agency also proposed to add a definition of the term "public institution" as follows: "Public as used in referring to museums, zoological parks, and scientific or educational institutions, refers to those that are open to the general public and are either established, maintained, and operated as a governmental service or are privately endowed and organized but not operated for profit." This definition is important because the existing regulation exempted public institutions from some parts of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act permit requirements, but it was unclear what qualified an institution for this exemption.

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

BRISTLE-THIGGED CURLEWS COLOR-MARKED IN ALASKA – Thirty-two Bristle-thighed Curlews were uniquely marked with coded leg flags on the breeding grounds in western Alaska in the summer of 2010 as part of a three year mark-resight project. Additional curlews will be marked during the breeding season in 2011 and 2012. The ultimate goal of this project is to collect data that will be used to estimate the current size of the curlew population breeding in the southern Nulato Hills. Each curlew has a green flag on its upper right leg and a standard federal metal band on its upper left leg. The green flag has a unique code consisting of two white characters (either two numbers or two letters). Please report all sightings to KRISTINE SOWL, Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 346, Bethel, Alaska 99559, USA (EM: kristine_sowl@fws.gov). Please note the date, the leg flag code, location of the bird, and its behavior. Copies of photographs of the individual may provide information on sex.

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE SIGHTINGS – Loggerhead shrikes are declining across much of their range. In Canada, the Eastern subspecies is considered critically endangered, with less than 35 pairs found in 2009. The vast majority of pairs now breed in Ontario. An extremely active and multi-faceted recovery program is underway for this species in Ontario, including a captive breeding and release program. This program has been releasing approximately 100 juvenile shrikes annually since 2006. While much is known and has been learned about this species, a critical piece of the puzzle is still missing: where exactly do these birds spend the winter? To maximize our chances of locating wintering areas and better define migration routes we will be coloring the breast of released young, produced from the captive breeding program, to make them more detectable by birders. Birds will be released over July and August. Birds will have an extensive area of their breast colored in green, blue or purple. All released birds, and a large proportion of the wild population, are also color banded. If you see a shrike with a colored breast and/or wearing bands, please report it to Wildlife Preservation Canada at (EM: jessica@wildlifepreservation.ca, PH: 519-836-9314, or FX: 519-836-8840). We will need details about specific location (GPS coordinates are ideal, but not essential) and color(s) (breast and/or bands) seen.

MARKED GREAT EGRETS—In the past decade, over 1,200 young Great Egrets have been banded with readable red leg-bands marked with white alpha numerics (number-number-letter) in the Great Lakes region and southward. This year, over 100 egrets were marked with very obvious orange wing-tags with similar alpha-numerics. If you see any marked egrets bearing red leg-bands or with bright orange wing-tags, please try to accurately read the number-letter combinations and report the details (where and when observed and by whom). Send any observations to: (EM: chip.weseloh@ec.gc.ca)

POSITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

The Positions and Opportunities section is available only in the on-line edition. It 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 AT 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>

TIOF ENDOWMENT FUND PROPOSAL--The International Osprey Foundation (TIOF) is seeking applications for its 21st 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 2011** to: TIOF Endowment Fund, P.O. Box 250, Sanibel, Florida, USA 33957-0250. The grant will be awarded on 31 Mar 2011.

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

BIRD POPULATIONS, VOLUME 10—The Institute for Bird Populations (IBP) announces the electronic publication of Volume 10 of *Bird Populations*, a journal of global avian demography and biogeography. As with Volumes 7-9, Volume 10 is available to all, on-line (URL: <http://www.birdpop.org/birdpop.htm>). In addition to peer-reviewed papers, Volume 10 continues re-vitalized publication of the Breeding Bird Census and contains the 2003-2008 report of the North American Breeding Bird Survey and electronic links to reports from the British Trust for Ornithology's integrated avian monitoring programs. *Bird Populations* invites coordinators of standardized avian monitoring programs anywhere in the world to provide links to their reports. Although all papers and reports in *Bird Populations* can be downloaded as pdf files free of charge, financial support for its publication will be appreciated and can be provided by visiting (URL: <http://www.birdpop.org>). For inquiries regarding publication in *Bird Populations*, contact the editor, DAVID AINLEY (EM: dainley@penguinscience.com); for inquiries regarding IBP, contact DAVE DESANTE (EM: ddesante@birdpop.org).

BIRDS OF ONTARIO: Habitat Requirements, Limiting Factors, and Status. Nonpasserines: Shorebirds through Woodpeckers, Al Sandilands, 2010. University of British Columbia Press. 392 pp., ISBN: 9780774817622 (\$95.00 Hardcover). This is the second volume in the series and completes the treatment of the nonpasserine bird species occurring in Ontario on a regular basis. Information on habitat, limiting factors, and status is summarized for 83 species in this volume. These topics are covered for the three primary avian seasons: breeding, migration, and winter. Habitat, nest sites, territoriality, site fidelity, annual reproductive effort, habitat loss and degradation, environmental contaminants, and a variety of other topics are covered in the species accounts. Maps depicting breeding and wintering range are presented for most species along with drawings by Ross James. URL: http://www.ubcpress.ca/search/title_book.asp?BookID=299173046

EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON BIRDS, edited by Anders Pape Møller, Wolfgang Fiedler, Peter Berthold. 2010. Oxford University Press. Paper: 978-0-19-956975-5/\$62.95. Cloth: 978-0-19-956974-8/\$117.00. 344 pages & 75 b/w illus. 9.7" x 7.4". This book is an extensive and up-to-date synthesis of the science of climate change as it relates to birds. It provides extensive overviews of the implications of climate change at a range of scales (from individual to communities) for migration, genetics, genomics, ecology, evolution, and conservation, while suggesting future research directions. The short methodological chapters tackling specific issues of analysis and illustrated with examples and key references, make this ideal for graduate courses. Available from Oxford University Press (URL <http://www.oup.com/us>; PH: 1-800-445-9714).

BIRDS OF CANADA by Tyler Hoar, Ken De Smet and Wayne Campbell, 2010. Lone Pine Publishing. 528 pp., 6.25" x 9.25". ISBN: 978-1-55105-603-6 (Hardback, \$39.95), ISBN: 978-1-55105-589-3 (Paperback, \$32.95). This comprehensive full-color guide to nearly 500 species of birds that call Canada home at least part of the year includes the following: ID, habitat, status, nesting, feeding, voice and similar species notes on each species' natural history, name origins specific behaviors and habitats to watch for mnemonics to help remember species conservation activities underway in all provinces beautiful full-color illustrations and photos for each species range maps birdwatching tips and best sites. Lone Pine Publishing, (PH: Canada: 800-661-9017, U.S. 800-661-9017; URL: <http://www.lonepinepublishing.com/cat/9781551056036>).

BIRD MIGRATION AND GLOBAL CHANGE by ecologist George W. Cox. 2010. Island Press. *Bird Migration and Global Change* is an essential addition for students and scientists of migratory birds with a particular interest in their adaptability to climate change. Cox reviews, synthesizes, and interprets recent and emerging science on the subject, beginning with a discussion of climate change and its effect on habitat, followed by an examination of responses of bird types across all regions of the globe. Cox concludes by addressing the evolutionary capacity of birds, considering how best to shape conservation strategies to protect migratory species in the future. A more thorough synopsis of the book and an author biography are available on the Island Press website (URL: <http://www.islandpress.org/bookstore/detailsy14.html>).

PARROTS OF THE WORLD, Joseph M. Forshaw, illus. by Frank Knight. 2010. Princeton University Press. 336 pp., 6 x 9, 146 color plates, 391 maps. ISBN: 978-0-691-14285-2, paper, \$29.95. This volume covers all 356 species featured in 146 superb color plates depicting every kind of parrot, as well as detailed, facing-page species accounts that describe key identification features, distribution, subspecies, habitat, and status. Maps show ranges of all subspecies, and field identification is further aided by relevant upperside and underside flight images. Where to observe each species in the wild is also shown. (URL: <http://press.princeton.edu/titles/9292.html>)

DEEP DISCOUNT ON COPIES OF THE CODE FOR INSTRUCTORS—The American Association for Zoological Nomenclature is offering a deep discount on the purchase of multiple copies of *THE INTERNATIONAL CODE OF ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE* (4th edition, 1999) to be used for training and/or teaching. If you are teaching a course on systematics or nomenclature, we can offer multiple copies of the Code at a much reduced rate. Please inquire with AL GARDNER (EM: gardnera@si.edu).

HOW FAST CAN A FALCON DIVE? Fascinating Answers to Questions about Birds of Prey, Peter Capainolo and Carol A. Butler. 2010. Rutgers University Press. 238 pp., 5 1/2 x 8 1/2. ISBN: 978-0-8135-4790-9 (Paper, \$21.95). This colorful volume, complete with more than fifty-five color and black and white images from photographers and artists around the world, uses a friendly question and answer format, in which the authors define and classify raptors, explore the physical attributes of birds of prey, view how their bodies work, and explain the social and physical behaviors of these species—how they communicate, hunt, reproduce, and more. Capainolo relates his personal experience in falconry to describe raptor training and husbandry where the human-bird interactions are complex. (URL: http://rutgerspress.rutgers.edu/acatalog/How_Fast_Can_A_Falcon_Dive.html)

ATLAS OF RARE BIRDS, Dominic Couzens, 2010. MIT Press. 240 pp., 10 1/2 x 8 1/2, 200 color photos, 61 maps. ISBN-13: 978-0-262-01517-2, (\$29.95, cloth). Focusing on fifty captivating stories of the very rare, this volume describes remarkable discoveries of species not seen for centuries and brought back from the brink of extinction, successes like the Seychelles Magpie-Robin and the California Condor. The book is organized around key groups of species, with each species the subject of its own mini-chapter; we learn about the five most amazing tales of island endemics, the five most bizarre cases of a bird's becoming threatened, and other astonishing tales of bird life. The atlas format shows the global nature of the problem and brings together the many strands of the concerted bird conservation effort taking place on every continent. (URL: <http://mitpress.mit.edu/catalog/item/default.asp?ftype=2&tid=12398>).

AAA AW TO ZZZZZD: THE WORDS OF BIRDS – North America, Britain, and Northern Europe. John Bevis. 2010. MIT Press. 4 1/4 x 7, 160 pp., 24 illus. \$12.95/£9.95 (cloth). For hundreds of years, we have tried to write down what we hear when birds sing. Poets have put birdsong in verse (Thomas Nashe: "Cuckoo, jug-jug, pu-we, to-witta-woo") and ornithologists have transcribed bird sounds more methodically. Drawing on this history of bird writing, in *Aaaaw to Zzzzzd* John Bevis offers a lexicon of the words of birds. For example, we learn that some people hear the Baltimore oriole saying "here, here, come right here, dear" and the yellowhammer saying "a little bit of bread and no cheese." Bevis also offers an engaging account of other methods of documenting birdsong—field recording, graphic notation, and mechanical devices including duck calls and the serinette, an instrument used to teach song tunes to songbirds. For more information, see (URL: <http://mitpress.mit.edu/catalog/item/default.asp?ftype=2&tid=12247>).

PERSONAL EXCHANGES

FOR SALE: Used specialty bird books and reports. Request list and prices at (URL: maandpacrcocoll@yahoo.com). Buyers pay shipping.

FOR SALE (for a reasonable price) OR DONATION (to the right cause, for the cost of shipping) the following publications: *Auk* 1974-1987, *Condor* 1974-1987. Contact TOM LEMKE (EM: tlemke406@gmail.com).

FREE JOURNALS – *Wilson Bulletin* 1996-present; *Oryx* 1964, 1987 - 2009; *Ibis* 1996 - 2003; *Biological Conservation* 1968 - 72; *Condor* 1968, 1970 - 74; *Ecology* 1970; *British Birds* 1967 (12 issues on population status). Free, but recipient pays the shipping. BRIAN E. SHARP, PO Box 111, Fossil OR 97830 (PH: 541-763-2050, EM: ecoperspectives@yahoo.com).

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

GYRFALCONS AND PTARMIGAN IN A CHANGING WORLD – The Peregrine Fund, Boise State University, and the U.S. Geological Survey will convene an international conference “Gyrfalcons and Ptarmigan in a Changing World” from **1-3 Feb 2011**, in Boise, Idaho, U.S.A. We invite scientists, land managers, policy analysts, and other conservationists from around the world to explore evidence for a range of environmental changes (climate, contaminants, disease, development) in arctic ecosystems with a focus on the Gyrfalcon and its principal prey, ptarmigan, as models of the predator-prey relationship. The conference aims to predict effects and outcomes of global climate change on arctic predators and prey, identify areas of uncertainty, and develop global strategies for measuring and mitigating them. The proceedings will be published in what we expect will be a landmark publication of information, ideas, and strategies. For details please visit: (URL: http://www.peregrinefund.org/gyr_conference/) or contact us (EM: tpf@peregrinefund.org).

The following societies will hold a joint meeting at KEARNEY 2011, **9 – 13 Mar 2011**:

2011 Annual Meeting of the Association of Field Ornithologists^{81st}
Annual Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Society
The 2011 Annual Meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Society

KEARNEY 2011 – The Association of Field Ornithologists (AFO), the Cooper Ornithological Society (COS), and the Wilson Ornithological Society (WOS) will jointly hold their annual meetings **9 – 13 Mar 2011** in Kearney, Nebraska. The conference, “Kearney 2011,” is timed to coincide with the spring migration of Sandhill Cranes and other waterbirds in the Platte River region. The conference will also dovetail with the annual meeting (13 - 16 Mar) of The Waterbird Society (URL: <http://www.waterbirds.org/>) to be held jointly in Grand Island, Nebraska, with the 12th Workshop of the North American Crane Working Group (URL: <http://www.nacwg.org/workshops.html>). Conference organization for Kearney 2011 is being carried out by a Local Committee chaired by MARY BOMBERGER BROWN (PH: 402-472-8878; EM: mbrown9@unl.edu), Tern and Plover Conservation Partnership, 3310 Holdrege St. 153cHardin Hall, Lincoln NE 68583-0931. Full details about all aspects of the conference are available online (URL: <http://snr.unl.edu/kearney2011/index.asp>). The primary venue of Kearney 2011 will be the Younes Conference Center. Most attendees will want to take advantage of conference rates at the three Heartland Hospitality hotels closest to the conference center: Holiday Inn, Wingate Inn, and Hampton Inn. Registration fees (including lunch each day) for Professionals will be \$245.00 until **15 Jan 2011** (\$280.00 thereafter) and \$160.00 for Students (\$185.00 after 15 Jan). Registration and abstract submission (deadline **on or before 15 Jan 2011**) will be handled online using links on the primary conference web site. The scientific program for the conference will include 3 days of sessions on 10 – 12 Mar including plenary presentations, society business meetings and awards, symposia, presentation by the COS Young Investigator award winners, contributed oral presentations and a single contributed poster session. Field trips include trips to the blinds at the Rowe Audubon Sanctuary in Gibbon, NE, waterbirds in the Rainwater Basin, and Sharp-tail Grouse and Prairie Chicken leks in Mullen, NE. Applications for Travel Awards for students and recent PhD recipients presenting papers as first author will be **due 1 Dec 2010** (application details at <http://snr.unl.edu/kearney2011/studenttravelawards.asp>). Student Presentation Awards will be administered by a joint committee of the three participating societies. Eligible students will need to indicate their interest in being considered for an award when they submit their abstracts for the scientific program **on or before the 15 Jan 2011 deadline**. Students whose presentations are eligible for awards who are not already members of the Wilson Ornithological Society will have the opportunity to accept free membership in WOS for the duration of 2011 at the time of abstract submission. The Cooper Ornithological Society seeks applications for its Young Professional Award (YPA). The deadline for applications (details available on the conference web site) is **1 Dec 2010**. Two award recipients will be chosen prior to the 15 Jan 2011 deadline for Abstract submissions; travel expenses for these awardees will be provided by COS and each will give a featured 25-minute presentation about their research. For more information, , to register and to submit an abstract, please visit the website (URL: <http://snr.unl.edu/kearney2011/index.asp>).

*THE THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WATERBIRD SOCIETY-Notice of meeting and Call for Papers. The meeting will be held in Grand Island, Nebraska, from **13 - 16 Mar 2011** (Sunday to Wednesday) and will be held jointly with the North American Crane Working Group. Call for Papers. This meeting will constitute the annual meeting for the 2010 calendar year, and will include presentations of research papers, symposia, workshops, social events and area field trips. The Waterbird Society will be meeting for the first time with the North American Crane Working Group whose mission is to improve communication and interaction among individuals researching or managing cranes in North America. The theme of the meeting is Migration and Migratory Landscapes and both organizations are anticipating a productive and stimulating conference. Planned symposia and special paper sessions include: Central Flyway migration, mid-continent wetland habitats, climate change and threatened species, reintroduction strategies, roosting habits and local movements of waterbirds, oil spill impacts to waterbirds, management of large landscapes. In addition, the meeting will include general paper sessions and poster presentations. Members of both organizations and non-members are encouraged to submit an abstract of their work for oral or poster presentation at the meeting. Abstracts deadline: **15 Jan 2011**. Submission instructions will be posted on the Society's website (URL: http://www.waterbirds.org/annual_meeting). Venue. The setting for the meeting is the historic Platte River and nearby wetlands which provide in mid-March, staging habitat for nearly 10 million waterfowl and half a million Sandhill Cranes-a phenomenon of global significance. Due to its use by large numbers of migrating shorebirds, the area also is designated a Landscape of International Importance by the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network. Daily opportunities to view cranes, waterfowl and shorebirds will be available via blinds and field trips. The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn Midtown in Grand Island, Nebraska. The Holiday Inn Midtown has 206 rooms and is a conference center with two ballrooms, seven breakout rooms, an exhibit area and all services required for a major conference. The room rate for meeting participants is \$79.00 for single, double, triple, or quadruple occupancy. In addition, rooms are available at several other hotels within walking distance of the conference venue. Registration fees cover most meal costs as well as travel to and from the Crane Trust Wild Rose Ranch which is hosting evening socials with crane viewing opportunities throughout the conference. Significant support is offered to students through travel awards and housing. The Central Nebraska Regional Airport in Grand Island has direct flight services from Denver, Phoenix, and Las Vegas with Allegiant Air and Great Lakes Airlines. Kearney Regional Airport in Kearney NE is 40 minutes away and supports flights to Denver with Great Lakes Airlines. Lincoln Airport in Lincoln NE is a 1.5 hour drive to Grand Island and supports direct flights to Minneapolis and Denver. The Omaha Airport is a 2.5 hour drive from Grand Island and has connecting flights to and from most major airline hubs in the US. Further information about the meeting is posted at the websites of the Waterbird Society (URL: http://www.waterbirds.org/annual_meeting) and the North American Crane Working Group (URL: <http://www.nacwg.org/>). Contacts for the meeting are: FELIPE CHAVEZ-RAMIREZ, Local Committee Chair (EM: fchavez@whoopingcrane.org) and KATHARINE PARSONS, Scientific Program Chair (EM: katharineparsons@gmail.com).

*THE TWELFTH NORTH AMERICAN CRANE WORKSHOP will be held in Grand Island, Nebraska, **13 - 16 Mar 2011** and will be held jointly with the Waterbird Society. The workshop is open to all those interested in crane research and conservation. Workshop details and registration information coming soon. Contacts for the meeting are: FELIPE CHAVEZ-RAMIREZ, Local Committee Chair (EM: fchavez@whoopingcrane.org) and DAVID ABORN, Scientific Program Chair (EM: david-aborn@utc.edu). For more information about the North American Crane Working Group, please visit (URL: <http://www.nacwg.org/>).

THE 129TH STATED MEETING OF THE AOU will be held in Jacksonville, FL, **26-29 Jul 2011**.

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

*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 to interchange 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. The Peruvian Ornithological Congress will be held concurrently with the NOC and will sponsor sessions focused on Peruvian ornithology as well as share NOC sessions and plenary addresses. To obtain more information about the IX NOC and VIII COP we invite you to visit the web site for the congress (URL: <http://www.ixconperu2011.org>), where you find information regarding activities as they are organized as well registration forms and other information.

*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. The conference will place a particular emphasis on studies concerning the impact of invasive species on ecosystem functioning and/or services, irrespective of taxonomic groups or ecosystem types. However, studies on any other ecological aspect of biological invasions will also be welcome, including topics such as the spread of invasive species into ecosystems, the biogeography and history of species introductions, and the community- or species-level impact of biological invasions. Contact: JORGE L. GUTIÉRREZ (EM: biolief@grieta.org.ar). For more information about this meeting, visit our website (URL: <http://www.grieta.org.ar/biolief/>). You can also follow us in Facebook for news and updates (URL: <http://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/pages/BIOLIEF-2011/126444150720221?ref=sgm>).

NEWS OF MEMBERS

RANDY HILL has changed jobs and moved from Columbia NWR in Othello WA to Ridgefield NWR. His new contact information is: Randy Hill, Deputy Project Leader, Ridgefield NWR Complex, 28908 NW Main Ave, PO Box 457, Ridgefield WA 98642. EM: randy_hill@fws.gov; PH: 360-887-3883/4106; FX: 360-887-4109.

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@andrews.edu).

THE MOST RECENT NUMBERS of the Society journals and the month of mailing are: *Auk*, 2010, Vol. 127, #4 (Nov); *Condor*, 2010, Vol. 112, #3 (Sep), *J. Field Ornith.*, 2010, Vol. 81, #4 (Dec), *Raptor Res.*, 2010, Vol. 44, #3 (Sep), *Waterbirds*, 2010, Vol. 33, #3 (Sep), *Wilson J. Ornith.*, 2010, Vol. 122, #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@andrews.edu), **by 1 January 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.

ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETIES OF NORTH AMERICA

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