

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 201

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ORGANIZATION NEWS

THE *ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWSLETTER ON-LINE* can be found at <http://www.osnabirds.org/on>. Also, visit:
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RRF - <http://raptorresearchfoundation.org>
WOS - <http://www.ummz.lsa.umich.edu/birds/wos.html>
BIRDNET - <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/>

5TH NORTH AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGICAL CONFERENCE, **14-18 Aug 2012, Vancouver, BC, Canada** on the University of British Columbia campus. **FIRST CALL FOR SYMPOSIUM AND WORKSHOP PROPOSALS** Proposals for symposia should contain the following details: symposium title; the names, institution or affiliation, addresses, phone, fax, email addresses of organizer(s) and keynote speaker(s); a description (500 words maximum) of the objectives and conceptual flow of the symposium. In addition, provide a separate 300 word justification for why this symposium is important and timely (i.e., in terms of fundamental science or the application of science to address management problems) and why it would be interesting to attendees (e.g., to attract >100 participants). Proposals that provide opportunities for speakers to present alternate perspectives or evidence about controversial topics are encouraged. Additional information about the application process, selection criteria, presentation timing and format, and symposium structure will be placed on the NAOC web site (URL: <http://www.naoc-v2012.com>). Symposia will be limited to half-day sessions (approximately 3 hours, composed of 15 or 30 minute time slots); there will be no full-day symposia. Symposium and Workshop organizers and presenters will be expected to pay for full conference registration, and will be responsible for their own travel expenses. Presenters at symposia will not be considered for presentations in contributed paper sessions (i.e., limit of one oral presentation per person at the meeting). Abstracts for papers given during symposia must be submitted as part of the normal abstract submission process and deadlines (to be announced). Symposium organizers should confirm attendance by prospective speakers. Proposals for workshops should contain the following details: workshop title; the names, institution or affiliation, addresses, phone, fax, email addresses of organizer(s) or instructor(s); a 300 word justification for why this workshop is important or useful to attendees; maximum number of participants; and time, space and resource (e.g., computing) requirements. Workshops will be scheduled either before, during (evenings) or after the main conference. The deadline for submission of proposals for Symposia or Workshops (Word file or PDF) is **15 Jun 2011**, with decisions being sent to applicants within 3 months of the submission. Send enquiries and proposals to (EM: NAOC2012@ec.gc.ca). In some cases, symposium and workshop organizers may be contacted by the Chair of the Scientific Program Committee (Bob Clark) prior to final decisions to discuss proposals.

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NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RAPTOR WORKSHOP: Accredited through University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point--Two 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. Session #1 **6-10 Jun 2011** and session #2 **20-24 Jun 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 a registration form visit (URL: <http://www.RaptorResearch.com>)

ORNITHOLOGYEXCHANGE.ORG: THE PLACE TO BE! – This new website serves as a central exchange of information for ornithologists and a resource hub for the ornithological community. The site hosts discussion forums on a wide range of topics including permits, research methods and ethics, teaching, Q&A on writing papers, presenting talks, preparing posters, research funding, and all aspects of the science of ornithology. In addition, Ornithology Exchange features articles highlighting trends in ornithology, current research programs, and much more. Stay up to date with all the current news and announcements from your ornithological societies, get involved by participating in journal club or poetry slams, and find a ride-share to an upcoming meeting. The site also features user-generated blogs, photo galleries, calendars, and much more. The site will be open to all members of any of the ornithological societies listed here: 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, Wilson Ornithological Society. Registering for Ornithology Exchange as a member of one of these societies has its perks, such as access to forums, articles, and other content. Even without registration or membership in a society, you will always have access to basic content such as society news and announcements and job listings. Best of all, members will be able to create content and initiate discussions. OrnithologyExchange.org will also link to the websites of the sponsoring ornithological societies and other ornithological organizations. Upon request, we can provide access and forums to other ornithological groups. To register, visit the site at (URL: <http://OrnithologyExchange.org>). Note: OrnithologyExchange.org will not replace society websites, but will consolidate the information your societies send out and will replace ornith-L and OCNET. For further information about OrnithologyExchange.org, please contact CHRIS MERKORD (EM: chris@merkord.com) or ELLEN PAUL (EM: ellen.paul@verizon.net).

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

A CHAMPION OF BIRD CONSERVATION RETIRES – The Ornithological Council congratulates Paul R. Schmidt, Assistant Director for Migratory Birds and State Programs for the USFWS on his long and stellar career with that agency. Schmidt is retiring from the USFWS, where he has been a true champion for bird conservation. During his career, he has served as the Deputy Assistant Director for Migratory Birds and State Programs and Deputy Assistant Director for Refuges and Wildlife, Chief of the Division of Migratory Bird Management, special assistant to the Director, Deputy Assistant Regional Director for the Alaska Region, Refuge Supervisor in Alaska and in various field positions including outdoor recreation planner, biologist and refuge manager. Paul currently serves as Chairman of the Arctic Goose Joint Venture, Chairman of the Service Regulations Committee, International Delegate to Wetlands International, and serves as a member of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan Committee, North American Waterbird Council, and U.S. Shorebird Council. Paul has consistently advanced non-game bird conservation by adding positions and funding and creating policies that extended the Joint Ventures and State Wildlife Grants to cover all birds. For his tireless leadership, extraordinary vision, and persistence in the development of Partners in Flight, Paul R. Schmidt received the Champion of Bird Conservation Award at the Partners in Flight 20th Anniversary Celebration in 2009. Fortunately, Paul will still be a vital part of the bird conservation community as he is about to become the Chief Conservation Officer for Ducks Unlimited.

NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD CONSIDERS OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING POLICY FOR NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION - When the National Institutes of Health instituted its open access policy approximately four years ago, many in the non-biomedical realm were unconcerned because relatively little NIH funding goes to the natural sciences, and most funding for the natural sciences comes from NSF and other federal agencies. However, the Ornithological Council predicted that it was only a matter of time until the other agencies followed suite, and so it was really important that the NIH open access model take into account the impact of this policy on scientific societies and their journals, particularly the smaller societies that depend in large part on journal revenue as a key source of income. Ever since the NIH policy went into effect, advocates have been pushing for a Congressional fiat, with some success. The Obama Administration has mandated a review of the open access issue, and the National Science Board (the governing body of the National Science Foundation) has initiated its own review by creating a task force to consider how the NSF policy can increase access to data generated by NSF funding; this policy would likely pertain not just to publications but to underlying data as well. More information about the task force can be found here: http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/committees/tskforce_dp_charge.jsp

ORNITHOLOGICAL COUNCIL SUPPORTS SCIENTIFIC BASIS OF USFWS DECISION ON LEAD SHOT FOR THE CONTROL OF DEPREDATING BIRDS – In Dec 2010, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service issued a new regulation removing Rusty Blackbirds (*Euphagus carolinus*) and Tamaulipas Crows (*Corvus imparatus*) from the depredation order that allows the take of specific species of migratory birds, at specific locations, and for specific purposes without a depredation permit. The same regulation also added a prohibition on the use of lead shot for take of migratory birds under the depredation order. Some government agencies and private organizations challenged the scientific basis of the provision prohibiting lead shot. The Ornithological Council and The Wildlife Society were among the scientific organizations that led an effort to examine the underlying science. Finding that the USFWS had an adequate scientific basis for the rule, we called on the agency to resist calls to change or reverse the decision, because, as we concluded, the "The Service has reached a biologically sound conclusion in saying that, "Poisoning of many other species of birds by lead shot has been well documented. We reasonably infer based on this information that lead is toxic to Rusty Blackbirds and other bird species, which provides sufficient justification to ban the use of lead shot in bird control under this order."

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR ISSUES LONG-DELAYED SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY POLICY – On 1 Feb 2011, the new Policy on Integrity of Scientific and Scholarly Activities of the Department of the Interior (DOI) was officially announced. This policy reaffirms Interior's commitment to maintaining integrity in DOI scientific and scholarly activities because scientific and scholarly information considered in DOI decision-making must be robust, of the highest quality, and the result of as rigorous scientific and scholarly processes as can be achieved. This new policy covers all Department employees, including political appointees, when they engage in, supervise, manage, or influence scientific and scholarly activities, or communicate information about the Department's scientific and scholarly activities, or utilize scientific and scholarly information in making agency policy, management, or regulatory decisions. The policy also covers all volunteers, contractors, cooperators, partners, permittees, leasees, and grantees who assist with developing or applying the results of scientific and scholarly activities. Roll out of this policy will begin immediately and training for employees and others who are covered by this policy is under development. To review the policy, please visit the DOI Departmental Manual here: (URL: http://elips.doi.gov/app_dm/act_getfiles.cfm?relnum=3889). Of particular interest to professional associations, the policy provides clear guidance for federal employees who wish to engage with the communities of practice represented by professional societies. The Ornithological Council, The Wildlife Society, and others were particularly pleased to see this new policy, which had been the focus of years of effort by our organizations.

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

RING-BILLED GULLS – *The Birds of North America* species account by John P. Ryder is being updated, and we welcome unpublished information obtained since 1992, particularly information that is outside information contained in the original document. Information that we use would be credited in the account. Send information to either INGRID POLLET (EM: ipollet@yahoo.com), JOHN CHARDINE (EM: john.chardine@ec.gc.ca), or DAVE SHUTLER (EM: dave.shutler@acadiau.ca).

COLLABORATOR SOUGHT for long-term study in Neotropical avian ecology—A long-term study site in Belize needs a dedicated, accomplished, and productive professional to develop its full scientific potential. It has been used for studies in population genetics, migrant stopover ecology, and resident hurricane recovery. It has a marked population of residents and wintering migrants, and it qualifies for NSF programs supporting long-term research. The site lies on flat terrain in a safe, English-speaking country and can be run by one person. Parrots overhead daily. Opportunities to take the lead on a long-term Neotropical data set and a turnkey operation are exceptionally rare. Those interested are encouraged to apply by sending a CV and statement of interest to (EM: kevin.winker@alaska.edu).

DO YOU HAVE INFORMATION ABOUT DONALD WAKEHAM LAMM (1914 - 1996)? Donald W. Lamm is a former contributor to *Auk* and a valued member of the US and global Ornithology community. AMIP News, a Washington, DC-based nonprofit media organization is searching for a photograph of the above named who once served as US envoy to Ghana in 1957. This information is for a commemorative publication on US-Ghana friendship since 1957 when Ghana gained independence. Sadly, Mr. Lamm is the only envoy that no US or Ghanaian institution has any image of. If you have any photograph or information about Mr. Lamm or can make an introduction to a surviving family member or friend who might have, kindly contact FREDERICK NNOMA-ADDISON (PH: 202-460-3912 or via email (EM: fna@afroimagetv.org))

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@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>

MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE FOR OWLS—The world's best owl researchers and conservationists received the accolades of their peers during the 9th annual International Festival of Owls in Houston, Minnesota. Professor Dr. Claus König of Germany received the Festival's highest tribute, the Champion of Owls Award. In addition to discovering several new species of owls, he authored the authoritative guidebook to owls of the world. Barnaby, the Barn owl, who received the Lady Gray'l Award, touched the lives of over 1.8 million people in the United Kingdom. In his twenty years at Paradise Park in Cornwall he appeared on television and in person to promote public engagement in protecting wild barn owls, helping to raise over £140,000 for bird conservation. Raju Acharya of Nepal received the Special Achievement Award. He has worked diligently to survey owl populations and human attitudes toward owls in his country and educated millions of Nepalese people about the importance of owls in a balanced ecosystem that also supports the local economy. The World Owl Hall of Fame is sponsored by the World Owl Trust, Global Owl Project, and Gray Owl Fund. More information is available online (URL: <http://www.festivalofowls.com>).

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

AUSTIN PAUL SMITH: The Life of a Natural History Collector and Horticulturist by Stanley D. Casto and Horace R. Burke. 37 pages. published by the authors. Smith was an active bird collector in the United States before going to Costa Rica in the early 1920s, where he continued to send specimens to the US. This is available for free from the authors at (EM: sscasto2@aol.com or hrrburke@tamu.edu).

PERSONAL EXCHANGES

FOR SALE: large collection of major ornithological works by leading 20th Century authors (e.g., Nice, Burleigh, Friedmann, Deignan, Rand, Grinnell, Tinbergen, Wetmore, Taverner, Sutton, Lowery, Ripley, Blake, et. al.) in original wraps at very reasonable prices. Many extremely scarce. Check (URL: <http://home.comcast.net/~dhill844/site/>) and select "monographs," or email (EM: dohill@att.net) and request list.

AVAILABLE – We have issues of the *Condor*, *Wilson Bulletin*, *Conservation Biology*, *Journal of Wildlife Management*, *Wildlife Monographs*, *American Birds*, *Wildlife Society Bulletin*, *Journal of Field Ornithology*, *Bird Conservation International*, and the *Auk* available. They are mostly complete volumes. I can provide a complete list of the issues available. They are free to anyone who can use them and is willing to pick them up in San Francisco or pay for shipping. I can be reached at (EM: kathyh@sfszoo.org).

WANTED: used or dead Holohil transmitters. Do you have Holohil BD2 transmitters (<2 g) lying around that you're never going to use? If so, sell them to an impoverished graduate studying Amazonian understory birds! Contact EM: LPowell9@LSU.edu.

WANTED: rubber Yagi antenna. I work in rainforest understory where metal antennas can be cumbersome. If you have a rubber Yagi antenna that you are willing to sell or (ideally) trade for a metal one, please contact EM: LPowell9@LSU.edu.

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

*EVOLUTION OF LIFE ON PACIFIC ISLANDS AND REEFS: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE, **26-30 May 2011, Honolulu, Hawaii**. This international conference will bring together a diverse group of scientists to examine the biogeography and evolution of terrestrial, near-shore, and freshwater biota from across the tree-of-life, including humans, which are distributed across the Pacific Islands. The three-day conference will include five scientific symposia with invited speakers and contributed papers, pre-conference workshops, poster sessions, a luau banquet, and field trips. Information on the conference, including confirmed speakers, registration, abstract submission, and more can be accessed at (URL: http://botany.si.edu/events/2011_pacific/index.htm).

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>).

*THE THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE WESTERN FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS – Notice of Meeting and Call for Papers. The meeting will be held at the Windemere Hotel and Conference Center in **Sierra Vista, Arizona**, from **17 - 21 Aug 2011** (Wednesday to Sunday). CALL FOR PAPERS. This conference will constitute the annual meeting for the 2011 calendar year, and will include presentations of research papers, workshops, featured speakers, social events and area field trips. A keynote talk by Peter Pyle on molt migration, general paper sessions, workshops, and identification panels will be included. Further information about the meeting and instructions for submitting papers are posted at the website of the Western Field Ornithologists (URL: <http://www.westernfieldornithologists.org/>). Contacts for the meeting are: ED PANDOLFINO, Meeting Committee Chair (EM: erpfomca@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. Organizers: Dr. Gerald J. Niemi, (University of Minnesota-Duluth), Dr. Matthew Etterson (US EPA Mid-Continent Ecology Division) and Julie O'Conner (Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory). Contact: JULIE O'CONNOR (EM: RRFinDuluth@aol.com, PH: 218-348-2291).

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. 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>).

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 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>).

*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 is the seventh in the series of quail symposia dating back to 1972. 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 provides a rare opportunity for enthusiasts of quails and the suite of organisms occupying the same habitats to share information, and should be of interest to scientists, land managers, policy analysts, students and other conservationists. 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). Abstract deadline: **31 Mar 2011**. See (URL: <http://www.azgfd.gov/quailvii/>) for details.

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NEWS OF MEMBERS

MARK HAUBER, a faculty member of the Animal Behavior and Conservation concentration of Hunter College, City University of New York, was recently promoted to Professor of Psychology with tenure. He can be reached at (URL: <http://www.cowbird.org.nz>).

BRADLEY LIVEZEY died in a car accident February 2011. He was curator of Birds at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. His research focused on flightless birds and on using genetic analysis to study the evolution of birds, among other things. A seminal paper he authored in 1986 led to classifications of birds adopted by many field guides and books on waterfowl.

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 NEXT NEWSLETTER will be issued in June. 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 May 2011**. Submission by email (in the body of the email message--not an attached file) or on diskette (PC format: Word-Perfect 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.

THE MOST RECENT NUMBERS of the Society journals and the month of mailing are: *Auk*, 2010, Vol. 128, #1 (Mar); *Condor*, 2011, Vol. 113, 1 (Mar), *J. Field Ornith.*, 2011, Vol. 82, #1 (Mar), *Raptor Res.*, 2010, Vol. 44, #4 (Dec), *Waterbirds*, 2010, Vol. 33, #4 (Dec), *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.

ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETIES OF NORTH AMERICA

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