

Ornithological Newsletter

American Ornithological Society
Raptor Research Foundation

Association of Field Ornithologists
Wilson Ornithological Society

Cheryl L. Trine, Editor

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ORGANIZATION NEWS

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THE 136TH MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY (AOS) will be held in Tucson, Arizona, from **9-14 Apr 2018**. We are now requesting proposals for symposia (half-day or full-day), lightening symposia, workshops, and round-table discussions to occur at the conference. More information on the meeting can be found on the official website: <http://www.AmOrnithMeeting2018.org> Proposals must be submitted online **by midnight, 15 Oct 2017** (see full instructions posted on the official conference website). We seek to have a suite of thematic sessions at AOS that provides timely and novel information on a wide range of topics that highlight the exciting new advances in ornithological research, management, education, and conservation. Proposals for symposia, lightening sessions, and round-table discussions that emphasize the theme of the 2018 AOS conference (Celebrating Connections: Birds without Borders) are especially encouraged. Complete descriptions as well as instructions for submitting a proposal for these events can be found on the official conference website. Those interested in symposia specifically can learn more on the symposia page: <https://amornithmeeting2018.org/symposia/> Those interested in workshops and roundtables specifically can learn more on the corresponding page: <https://amornithmeeting2018.org/workshops-roundtables/> All proposals for symposia, workshops, or round-table discussions must be received **by midnight on 15 Oct 2017**. If you have questions, please send an email to the AOS Scientific Program Committee Chair, COURTNEY CONWAY (EM: cconway@uidaho.edu) with the subject AOS Symposium/Workshop/R-T.

THE 135TH STATED MEETING OF AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGY was held at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan, 1-5 Aug 2017. The conference was a joint meeting hosted and organized by the American Ornithological Society (AOS) and the Society of Canadian Ornithologists-Société des Ornithologistes du Canada. Along with the support of the sponsoring societies, the conference was hosted by Michigan State University with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology serving as the Premier Sponsor along with 20 additional sponsors. JENNIFER OWENS, Michigan State University, chaired the Steering Committee and SHARON GILL, Western Michigan University, chaired the Scientific Program Committee. There were over 675 registrants, representing 16 countries. The program included seven plenary lectures; over 500 contributed papers and posters, 12 symposia and 9 workshops. In addition to the quality scientific program, the conference included many

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exciting events and terrific local bird tours.

The AOS Presentation and Travel Awards Committee was co-chaired by Matt Carling and Morgan Tingley.

- PRESENTATION AWARDS were given to 10 students for excellence in the rigor and quality of their scientific papers, and these awards were unranked. The Robert B. Berry Conservation Award was presented to KRISTIN BIANCHINI (University of Saskatchewan) for the presentation, "Effects of oil contaminant exposure on pre-migratory fuelling in two shorebird species." The Mark E. Hauber Behavior Awards were presented to TARA IMLAY (Dalhousie University) for the presentation "Carry-over effects from wintering to breeding for Barn and Cliff Swallows" and JANICE KELLY (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) for the presentation, "Conspecific and heterospecific responses to perceived density for breeding habitat selection." The Nelly Johnson Baroody Award was presented to SARAH DZIELSKI (Cornell University) for the poster "What's in a feather? Reconstructing mercury concentrations through time using museum specimens." AOS Council Presentation Awards were presented to the following students: SHANE DUBAY (University of Chicago) for the presentation, "Bird specimens track 135 years of atmospheric soot and environmental policy"; KYLE HORTON (University of Oklahoma) for the presentation, "The migrant turnstile, quantifying 21 years of migration through the Gulf of Mexico"; NICHOLAS MASON (Cornell University) for the presentation "Song evolution, vocal learning, and speciation in passerine birds"; DESIREE NARANGO (University of Delaware) for the presentation "Non-native plants reduce reproductive success of an insectivorous bird"; GEORGE CUMMINS (Northern Arizona University) for the presentation "Evolution of response to nest predators in passerines"; and KATIE SCHROEDER (East Carolina University) for the presentation "Vocalizations in a non-passerine: what can call structure tell us about an individual king rail?"
- The AOS granted TRAVEL AWARDS to a total of 132 students and 15 awards to post doctoral fellows to attend the annual meeting.

The 136th Stated Meeting of American Ornithology will be held in Tucson, Arizona, USA, **9 to 14 Apr 2018**.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 135th STATED MEETING OF AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGY - AOS members re-elected two officers: Secretary ANDREW W. JONES, and Treasurer REBECCA T. KIMBALL. Members also elected the Class of 2020 Elective Councilors: ANNA D. CHALFOUN, ABBY N. POWELL, ANDREA K. TOWNSEND, AND MICHAEL S. WEBSTER.

The prestigious AOS AWARDS conferred at the annual meeting included:

- The William Brewster Memorial Award, bestowed each year to the author or co-authors of an exceptional body of work on birds of the Western Hemisphere, was presented to DR. JAMES D. NICHOLS. Dr. Nichols is a senior scientist emeritus at the Patuxent Research Center in Maryland where he spent a distinguished 40-year career with the U.S. Geological Survey. He is perhaps best known for his major contributions to the quantitative analysis of wildlife populations with special emphasis on birds. This immense, lifetime body of work has included the development and refinement of mark-recapture models and new approaches to understanding the dynamics and the structure of avian and other animal populations. His rare quantitative skills and analytical approaches to ornithology and animal conservation in general are embodied in the theme of adaptive management, a principle he has championed and which is now the backbone of wildlife management and conservation approaches throughout the world.
- The Loye and Alden Miller Research Award for lifetime achievement in ornithological research was presented to DR. CAROL M. VLECK. In a research career spanning nearly 40 years, Dr. Vleck has made

ground-breaking advances in the general discipline of avian physiological ecology. By integrating physiology, endocrinology, behavior, ecology, and evolution, Dr. Vleck, along with her students and colleagues, has published over 100 papers that have made significant impact and advanced understanding of aging processes in birds, oxidative stress and senescence, the neuroendocrinology of avian incubation and reproductive behavior, and embryonic energetics.

- The Elliott Coues Achievement Award, recognizing outstanding and innovative contributions to ornithological research, was presented to DR. KEVIN J. MCGRAW, Professor of Evolutionary and Systems Biology, Arizona State University. He has compiled an exceptional publication record and has established himself as a world leader in the area of animal coloration research. To date, he has (co-) authored well over 150 scientific articles, in addition to co-editing a well-received two-volume book, *Bird Coloration*, in 2006. As reflected in these publications, a main focus of Dr. McGraw's research has been to identify the chemical nature, distribution, and functions of natural carotenoid pigments, and this is the area of science in which his work has been most impactful. This research is novel and innovative, but also constitutes an outstanding example of multi-level integration.
- The Ralph W. Schreiber Conservation Award, recognizing extraordinary scientific contributions to the conservation, restoration, or preservation of birds and their habitats, was presented to DR. DANIEL D. ROBY. Dr. Roby's primary research addresses reproductive energetics of birds, especially seabirds. He uses energetic and nutritional approaches to better understand and help resolve wildlife management issues, including seabird-fisheries interactions, long-term impacts of oil spills, and the impacts of anthropogenic disturbance. Over his 40 year career, Dr. Roby's efforts have ranged from recovering birds oiled in the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Prince William Sound to protecting the largest colony of Double-crested Cormorants and Caspian Terns nesting on the Columbia River, and creating the third breeding colony for the nearly-extinct Chinese Crested Tern. Wading into contentious waters and endless government bureaucracies, Dr. Roby's contributions to resolving recent issues related to predator control have been especially notable.
- The Ned K. Johnson Young Investigator Award, recognizing work by an ornithologist early in his/her career who shows distinct promise for future leadership in the profession, was presented to, DR. MICHAEL BUTLER. Dr. Butler is currently an assistant professor at Lafayette College. His research efforts fall into a wide range of categories, including biomechanics, ecoimmunology, physiology, and behavioral ecology, driven by an underlying research interest in examining how animals meet challenges posed by the environment.
- The James G. Cooper Young Professional Award recognizes two early-career ornithological researchers (up to 3 years post-Ph.D.) for their outstanding contributions in any field of ornithology. This year's winners are NANCY CHEN and RICCARDO TON. Nancy Chen is currently an NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellow at UC Davis and will be starting as an Assistant Professor at the University of Rochester in July 2018. Her research seeks to understand the genomic basis of contemporary evolution in natural populations by combining genomic data with long-term demographic and pedigree data. Nancy's dissertation research concentrated on elucidating the genomic consequences of declining population size and developing bioinformatics tools for analyzing next-generation sequencing data in non-model organisms. Riccardo Ton received his Ph.D. in 2016 from the University of Montana. His exciting and elegant research examines the effects of metabolism and temperature on embryonic development times and post-natal growth rates in temperate and tropical songbirds.
- The Painton Award, bestowed each year to the author or co-authors of an exceptional paper, was presented to DR. KATIE M. DUGGER and collaborators for their paper published in *The Condor: Ornithological Applications*, entitled "The effects of habitat, climate, and Barred Owls on long-term demography of Northern Spotted Owls. *Condor* 118: 57-116. The article is a synthesis for Spotted Owls, a species of conservation concern that is affected by forest management and is being displaced by Barred Owls as a competitor. The article included a remarkable set of demographic data from multiple sites. The authors used mark-recapture analyses with random

effects to model occupancy dynamics, components of fecundity and survival, and effects of environmental covariates. The study included a novel field experiment where demographic responses of Spotted Owls were examined in response to experimental culling of Barred Owls. The article stood out as a particularly comprehensive work based on extensive field work at multiple sites, impressive collaboration among many researchers, innovative use of new statistical methods, and new insights into the competitive interactions of conspecific species of owls. The article provides new evidence that Spotted Owls may be reliant on conservation action, and that continued removals of Barred Owls may be necessary to halt or slow the extirpation of sensitive populations.

- The Marion Jenkinson Service Award, given to an individual who has performed continued extensive service to the society, is presented to DR. ERICA DUNN. Dr. Dunn, known to all as Ricky, has a 50/40 record for our society, 50 years a member and 40 years of service. Ricky has worked tirelessly to advance the science of ornithology and to promote the effectiveness of ornithological societies and institutions in North America. She began her active service in the former American Ornithologists' Union (AOU) in 1979 when she served as chair of the Committee on 'AOU and Amateurs,' and later served on the society's Council, and demonstrated remarkable leadership as President from 2006-2008. Ricky continues with her extraordinary service where she serves as the society's representative to the Birds of North America Advisory Committee, (2010-present). Finally, Ricky is a trusted, go-to person that always thinks first and foremost about what is best for ornithological science and to make strategic recommendations that help guide our profession and the organization.

AOS Fellows elected 26 new Fellows: TED ANDERSON (McKendree University, retired), w. alice boyle (Kansas State University), SARAH E. BUSH (University of Utah), ANNA D. CHALFOUN (University of Wyoming), CAREN BETH COOPER (North Carolina State University & North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences), RENEE DUCKWORTH (University of Arizona), KATIE DUGGER (Oregon State University), DAVID EWERT (The Nature Conservancy), COREY FREEMAN-GALLANT (Skidmore College), SHARON GILL (Western Michigan University), CAROLE S. GRIFFITHS (Long Island University), JANET HINSHAW (University of Michigan), KATHRYN HUYVAERT (Colorado State University), ANDREW W. JONES (Cleveland Museum of Natural History), CATHERINE LINDELL (Michigan State University), ANDREW L. MACK (Cassowary Conservation and Publishing), VLADIMIR PRAVOSUDOV (University of Nevada), j. jordan price (St. Mary's College of Maryland), PAUL G. RODEWALD (Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology), THOMAS B RYDER (Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center), JOHN SMALLWOOD (Montclair State University), KAREN STEENHOF (U.S. Geological Survey, retired), CAZ TAYLOR (Tulane University), CHARLES H. TROST (Idaho State University), JASON D. WECKSTEIN (Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University), and BLAIR WOLF (University of New Mexico).

AOS Fellows and Elective Members elected 59 new Elective Members: COURTNEY AMUNDSON (U.S. Geological Survey), DAVID ANDERSON (The Peregrine Fund), CHRIS BALAKRISHNAN (East Carolina University), Karl Berg (University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley), ELI BRIDGE (University of Oklahoma), LEO CAMPAGNA (Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology), JULIA CLARKE (University of Texas - Austin), MELANIE COLON (Texas A&M University), TARA CONKLING (U.S. Geological Survey), NATHAN W. COOPER (Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center), ROBERT J. COOPER (University of Georgia), KRISTEN COVINO (Canisius College), CLAIRE CURRY (University of Oklahoma), RAY DANNER (University of North Carolina - Wilmington), WILLIAM V. DELUCA (University of Massachusetts), JILL DEPPE (Eastern Illinois University), ELIZABETH DERRYBERRY (Univ of Tennessee - Knoxville) PIERRE DEVICHE (Arizona State University), ROBERT DIEHL (U.S. Geological Survey), CARLA FONTANA (Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul), VICTORIA GARCIA (Old Dominion University), RICHARD GIBBONS (Houston Audubon), EMMA GREIG (Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology), AMANDA HALE (Texas Christian University), ROBERT HAMILTON (Hamilton Biological, Inc.), MATTHEW D. JOHNSON (Humboldt State University), SARA KAISER (National Zoological Park), SARAH KNUTIE (University of Connecticut), DAVID KOONS (Colorado State University), SUSANNAH B. LEHRMAN (University of Massachusetts), HAW CHUAN LIM (National Museum of Natural History), JOHN D. LLOYD (Vermont Center for Ecostudies),

ASHLEY LONG (Texas A&M University), TERESA LORENZ (U.S. Forest Service), ALBERTO MACIAS-DUARTE (Universidad Estatal de Sonora), JAMES MALEY (Occidental College), PAUL MARTIN (Queen's University), NICHOLAS MASON (Cornell University), LUCIANO NAKA (Universidade Federal de Pernambuco), KARAN ODOM (Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology), KEN OTTER (University of Northern British Columbia), KRISTINA L. PAXTON (University of Hawai'i Hilo), EBEN PAXTON (Hawaii Volcano National Park), NOAH PERLUT (University of New England), CHRISTIN PRUETT (Tabor College), MATTHEW W. REUDINK (Thompson Rivers University), CHRISTINE RIBIC (U.S. Geological Survey and University of Wisconsin), JEREMY D. ROSS (University of Oklahoma), SARAH SONSTHAGEN (U.S. Geological Survey), MARY CASSIE STODDARD (Princeton University), HENRY STREBY (University of Toledo), COLIN E. STUDDS (University of Maryland - Baltimore County), ILDIKO SZABO (University of British Columbia), SCOTT TAYLOR (University of Colorado - Boulder), SCOTT B. TERRILL (H. T. Harvey & Associates), CAROLINE VAN HEMERT (U.S. Geological Survey), BENJAMIN M. WINGER (University of Michigan), STEFAN WOLTMANN (Austin Peay State University), and THEODORE J. ZENZAL (University of Southern Mississippi).

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRDSCARIBBEAN HURRICANE RELIEF FUND – Please help BirdsCaribbean to help its members and partners working to protect birds and restore habitat on the islands that suffered the devastation of the hurricanes (URL <https://www.razoo.com/story/Birdscaribbean-Hurricane-Relief>). The carnage is heartbreaking. Video from Cuba's northern Cays shows thousands of flamingos that were killed outright by this intense storm. Dead fish lay amongst dead and dying flamingos whose graceful wings, legs and necks were damaged beyond repair. In Barbuda, aerial footage reveals complete environmental disaster. Barbuda's Codrington Lagoon, a RAMSAR site that hosted the region's largest colony of Magnificent Frigatebirds (approx. 2,500 pairs), was breached. On Barbuda, satellite imagery shows us that Irma destroyed almost all the vegetation that small birds need to escape the winds. You can help right now as we work to protect the birds, habitats, and island communities. We are supporting our partner organizations, stabilizing their lives and operations so people can return to the critical post-Irma conservation work. All the funds will be distributed to bird conservation partners across the Greater and Lesser Antilles islands to help them get back on their feet and replace what was lost in the storm—from notebooks, materials and binoculars to offices and infrastructure. The Fund will also support field surveys to assess the status of endemic, resident and many migrant species, as well as recovery and habitat rehabilitation actions by our partners, such as planting native trees that feed birds and provide habitat. Sincere thanks to those that have donated already!

GOOD NEWS! CONSERVATIONISTS EXCITED TO FIND SURVIVING BARBUDA WARBLERS ON DEVASTATED ISLAND – Birds Caribbean is delighted to report that, during a one-day survey trip to Barbuda on September 22, a team from its Antigua partner Environment Awareness Group (EAG) and the Department of the Environment discovered a total of eight Barbuda Warblers. As the only endemic species on the island and country of Antigua and Barbuda, the Barbuda Warbler has a special place in the small community's hearts. The bird has a perky posture and constantly flits around, searching for insects in trees, thorny scrub and coastal areas. Its estimated population is between 1,000 and 2,500, but before the hurricane its population trends were not determined. . . . The team recorded the birds in a relatively small area near the secondary school in Codrington, the main settlement on the island. BirdsCaribbean is supporting the EAG and Department of Environment to conduct bird and wildlife surveys over the next five weeks. They are helping the team design a survey plan that will cover the habitat on the island and provide an estimate of the warbler's population size. Ornithologists and other skilled birders in the region and beyond will assist with an intensive survey effort in the coming weeks and months. The team will also devise a plan to help the Barbuda Warbler and other wildlife on the island recover, such as replanting native trees and mangroves that were destroyed in the hurricane. (Excerpted from <http://www.birdscaribbean.org/2017/09/good-news-conservationists-excited-to-find-surviving-barbuda-warblers-on-devastated-island/>)

CURRENT ATTACKS ON THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT – House Natural Resources Committee marked up and advanced several bills that would weaken the Endangered Species Act. House Chair Rob Bishop (R-UT) has said he would like to eliminate the ESA entirely. The bills considered last week are just a start. H.R. 717 (The Listing Reform Act) introduced by Rep. Pete Olson (R-Texas) would require consideration of the economic costs of protecting an animal or plant on the endangered species list and remove all deadlines for completing the listing process. H.R. 1274 (the State, Tribal, and Local Species Transparency and Recovery Act), introduced by Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-Wash.) would deem any information submitted by a state or local government to qualify as "best available" science even if inaccurate, out-of-date, fraudulent, incomplete, or otherwise faulty, and without any merit review. H.R. 3131 (the Endangered Species Litigation Reasonableness Act), introduced by Rep. Bill Huizenga (R-Mich.) would discourage citizen enforcement and participation in the implementation of the Endangered Species Act. It would award attorneys fees to the prevailing party, contrary to the general rule in the United States that each party pays its own attorneys fees, regardless of outcome. H.R. 2603 (the Saving America's Endangered Species or SAVES Act), introduced by Rep. Louie Gohmert (R-Texas) would bar ESA protection for non-native species that are present in the U.S. Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT) has introduced yet another bill, S.1863 (Native Species Protection Act), to clarify that noncommercial species found entirely within the borders of a single State are not in interstate commerce or subject to regulation under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 or any other provision of law enacted as an exercise of the power of Congress to regulate interstate commerce. A lower federal court in Utah ruled in 2014 that there was no Constitutional basis for the exercise of federal authority in such instances but that ruling was overturned by the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals in March 2017. A request for a re-hearing "en banc" (a three-judge panel) was denied in August. The Supreme Court has never ruled on the issue, although John Roberts, the current Chief Justice, hinted in a dissent he wrote when he was a lower court judge that a species found in only one state does not affect interstate commerce. The legislation is backed by extreme anti-ESA organizations that oppose the protection of the Utah prairie dog, an animal only found in Utah. In addition to ending protections for the prairie dog, the legislation would terminate protections for all 1,098 intrastate species, including 497 species in Hawaii, 234 species in California, 86 species in Florida (including the Florida Panther) and 20 species in Utah. Since January congressional Republicans have launched 50 legislative attacks against the Endangered Species Act or particular endangered species. To keep track of this legislation and other legislation of interest to ornithologists, visit the Ornithological Council legislative database, (URL: http://ornithologyexchange.org/articles/_community/calling-congress-should-not-be-a-full-time-job-new-resource-for-ornithologists-r242).

NEW PLAN FOR GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER – While on subject of long-term conservation planning for birds, there was a new five-year strategy for Golden-winged Warbler released last month by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The plan is designed to improve habitat in the Appalachian Mountains for this declining species, outlining how the Natural Resources Conservation Service and many partners can work with landowners to improve habitat on thousands of acres of privately owned forests. These efforts are centered on increasing young forest habitat and shrublands, the nesting habitat preferred by this seriously at-risk warbler. The approach identifies new priority areas for conservation using data assembled from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Cornell University, and other partners. Strategic conservation efforts will be specifically directed to those priority areas. "Many of our nation's forests have fallen into poor health, and we have a tremendous opportunity in Appalachia to make a difference both for landowners and for wildlife," NRCS Acting Chief, Leonard Jordan, said. "Our effort is to diversify the age classes of trees in forests, creating patches of forests of different ages, and for the Golden-winged Warbler, we're focusing on those younger forests within landscapes dominated by mature forests." You can get more details here, and download the strategy: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/newsroom/releases/?cid=NRCSERPD1342820> (from Birding Community E-bulletin, September 2017, <http://refugeassociation.org/news/birding-bulletin/>)

SANTA ANA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE THREATENED BY BORDER WALL CONSTRUCTION – Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge in the Lower Rio Grande Valley (LRGV) of Texas is currently under an immediate threat from the Trump Administration's border-wall plans. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and its subcontractors have recently been taking soil samples and making other preparations to build a huge and intrusive 18-foot border-wall through the north end of the refuge. Santa Ana NWR represents 2,088 acres of vital borderland habitat along the banks of the Rio Grande. The refuge was originally created in 1943 to protect migratory birds, and almost 95% of the property was acquired through Duck-Stamp/MBFC dollars. Some 400 bird species have been recorded in the refuge, including migratory waterfowl, raptors, warblers, and a suite of "South Texas specialties" that are Mexican in character and barely range into Texas. Moreover, Santa Ana NWR is an essential part of that intricate network of natural hotspots in the four-county LRGV that draws an economic income of over \$465 million per year from eco-tourists and birders. Why is Santa Ana NWR the center of concern? Santa Ana NWR is viewed as a relatively convenient location to fulfill the Trump Administration's promise to build "a wall." Santa Ana NWR is one of the few federally owned properties immediately along the Texas border. (Ninety-five percent of the land abutting the Mexico border in Texas is privately owned.) By initiating the new border wall at Santa Ana NWR, the administration is hoping to avoid the logistical nightmare of negotiating with private landowners – and even state and county authorities – to build a wall through their own backyards. Presently the plan is to build the wall on the levee that goes through and beyond the north end of the refuge. There is already enough current funding in the pipeline to start the project somewhere on the levee. At Santa Ana NWR, the issue of public access itself is still unresolved. We do not know if public access will continue to be allowed if this intrusive wall is built, or what kind of restrictions would be placed on future NWR visitation. The proposed 18-foot tall wall and corresponding land clearing would surely discourage visitors from experiencing the refuge. Naturally any reduction in visitation at the refuge and other wildlife habitats in the LRGV would have significant economic impacts to the local communities. If you wish to express concern about this issue to Congress, you can access a template letter from the National Wildlife Refuge Association which you can edit at: <http://refugeassociation.org/action/#/87> You can also obtain more details from the Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp at: <http://www.friendsofthestamp.org/santa-ana-nwr-in-jeopardy/> (from Birding Community E-bulletin, August and September 2017, <http://refugeassociation.org/news/birding-bulletin/>)

MIAMI UNIVERSITY'S PROJECT DRAGONFLY is accepting applications for 2018 Earth Expeditions graduate courses that offer extraordinary experiences in 16 countries throughout the world. http://EarthExpeditions.MiamiOH.edu/17-18_news Earth Expeditions can build toward the Global Field Program (GFP), a master's degree that combines summer field courses worldwide with web learning communities so that students can complete the GFP master's part-time from anywhere in the United States or abroad. http://GFP.MiamiOH.edu/17-18_news Project Dragonfly also offers the Advanced Inquiry Program (AIP) master's degree that combines web instruction from Miami University with experiential learning and field study through several AIP Master Institutions in the U.S. Applications for Miami's 2018 cohorts are being accepted now with place-based experiences provided at zoos in Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Denver, New York, San Diego, and Seattle. http://AIP.MiamiOH.edu/17-18_news Graduate tuition for all programs is greatly reduced because of support from Miami University.

LAST FRAGMENTS OF PRISTINE EUROPEAN TEMPERATE FORESTS THREATENED BY COMMERCIAL LOGGING. Bialowieza Forest, on the Polish/Belarus border, contains the best preserved fragments of lowland deciduous and mixed forests of the European Plains. A considerable part of the Bialowieza Forest is not disturbed by direct human intervention. It is one of the few places in Europe with well preserved, diverse assemblages of organisms characteristic of natural old growth forests, including top predators, iconic European bison, and 180 species of breeding birds. https://britishbirds.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/article_files/V98/V98_N04/V98_N04_P174_193_A001.pdf; <http://save-bialowieza.net/>. The natural values of Bialowieza Forest make it an invaluable hotspot for species and genetic diversity, and a unique model for biological and forest sciences, nature conservation and natural resource management http://www.forest.uni.wroc.pl/index.php?option=com_content&view=section&id=14&Itemid=56. Unfortunately, this unique

place is being purposefully destroyed by Polish authorities. Using a 'fighting bark beetle' excuse, the foresters began large scale cuttings in 2016 in areas earlier exempted from logging the last patches of forest of natural origin. Despite violating Poland's international obligations (UNESCO, European Union) and despite strong opposition of concerned citizens the logging continues unabated. Please help to stop this disaster. If you need more information, please visit save-bialowieza.net/ web site or contact TOMASZ WESOLOWSKI (EM: tomasz.wesolowski@uwr.edu.pl) of Wroclaw University.

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

SEEKING DEAD OWL SPECIMENS – The International Owl Center in Houston, MN is creating a display consisting of mounted specimens of all the owl species that occur in North America. We currently have 12 species, but are still looking for specimens of the following species: Elf Owl, Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl, Mountain Pygmy-Owl, Flammulated Owl, Whiskered Screech-Owl, Northern Hawk Owl, and Spotted Owl (any subspecies.) Specimens must be salvaged under a permit (salvage, rehabilitation, banding), as we cannot legally receive specimens from an exempt entity that is not required to have a permit. Foreign species are also welcome if they are already in the United States (such as from zoos or education facilities.) Contact KARLA BLOEM (EM: karla@internationalowlcenter.org or PH: 507-896-6957).

POSITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

The OSNA Ornithological Jobs page is currently unavailable. To POST or FIND ornithological jobs, please go to the Ornithology Exchange, <http://ornithologyexchange.org/jobs/index.html>.

THE BIRDSJOBS-L E-LIST will continue to be an option for receiving notices about ornithological jobs. Subscribers to this list will receive the same announcements that appear on Ornithology Exchange, in a weekly/biweekly list. To subscribe, send the following message to: <lyris@cornell.edu>, in the body of the message type: join Birdjobs-L "your name". The subject line should be blank. Please use the "plain text only" e-mail format option, include your own name in the message, and put quotation marks around your name. If you need help, contact ctrine@andrews.edu.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

FOR INFORMATION ON CONTINUING GRANTS PROGRAMS relevant to ornithological research, visit: <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/grants/index.html>. For other grant opportunities, visit: <http://ornithologyexchange.org/forums/forum/139-grants-awards/>

TIOF ENDOWMENT FUND PROPOSAL – The International Osprey Foundation (TIOF) is seeking applications for its 29th annual grant program to support research activities of graduate students primarily focused on osprey. However, research work with other raptor species will also be considered. The award recipient will be expected to provide a report of his or her research and use 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 2018** to: TIOF Endowment Fund, P.O. Box 250, Sanibel, FL 33957. Grants will be awarded on 31 March 2018.

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

THE NUTTALL ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB, 1987-2015. By William E. Davis, Jr., David B. Donsker, and Dana R. Duxbury-Fox. Nuttall Ornithological Club Memoir No. 21, Cambridge Massachusetts. 2017. 283 pp., 18 figures, 2 Tables, 4 Appendices, Index. ISBN 978-1-877973-51-2. \$35 (Cloth). This is an update of the history of the oldest ornithological organization in the Western Hemisphere, and parent organization of the American Ornithologists' Union (now American Ornithologists' Association). It contains chapters on changes in the Club through time, the Charles Blake bequest, finances and endowment, spending the Club's money, membership requirements, publications, special events and projects, regular meeting structure, and bylaws changes. One section consists of biographical sketches of Members. The appendices provide a list of officers, Club publications, Bylaws, and a list of talks given at regular meetings. Available from Buteo Books, 2731 Arrington Road, Arrington, VA. <http://www.buteobooks.com/product/NOCM21.html>.

PERSONAL EXCHANGE

5 USED SONGMETER SM4 ACOUSTIC RECORDERS FOR SALE: \$550 each + shipping. -Two 32 GB SD cards, cables and combination locks for securing recorders included. -Recorders were purchased in 2016 and used for 3 months in southern Arizona. - Great condition, warranty extends through March 2019. Product overview: <https://www.wildlifeacoustics.com/products/song-meter-sm4> Contact: ARIANA LA PORTE (EM: arianalaporte AT email.arizona.edu).

MEETINGS

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

* in this section indicates new or revised entry

*THE 10TH ASIAN RAPTOR RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION NETWORK SYMPOSIUM will be held on **18-22 October 2017** at Ateneo de Davao University, Roxas Avenue, Davao City, Philippines. Hosted by the Philippine Eagle Foundation in partnership with the Asian Raptor Research and Conservation Network and co-organized by Ateneo de Davao University, City Government of Davao City, Department of Tourism Region 11, and the Wild Bird Club of the Philippines – Raptor Group. The Symposium will officially start on 19 October 2017 and end with a farewell dinner on the evening of the 20th of October 2017. There will be a welcome dinner for the participants on 18th October 2017. Please make sure to arrive in the afternoon of the 18th to participate in the welcome dinner. Optional post-symposium field trips will be offered starting Sunday 22 Oct 2017. Meeting Website: <http://www.philippineeaglefoundation.org/arrcn-homepage>

2ND INTERNATIONAL BIRD OBSERVATORY CONFERENCE (IBOC) **26-30 Oct 2017**, hosted by New Jersey Audubon's Cape May Bird Observatory. Bird observatories around the globe annually engage millions of bird enthusiasts in person and online with educational programs, scientific research and community projects. They serve as key players working with national and local governments to promote conservation. And together, bird observatories are cooperating along migratory flyways to share critical data and address conservation challenges. All conference proceedings will be conducted in English. Featured speakers include John Alexander (Klamath Bird Observatory), Andy Clements (British Trust for Ornithology), Erica Dunn (Canadian Migration Monitoring Network), Pete Dunne (New Jersey Audubon), Pablo Elizondo (Costa Rica Bird Observatories), Andrew Farnsworth (Cornell Lab of Ornithology), Allen Fish (Golden Gate Raptor Observatory), Kimberly Kaufman (Black Swamp Bird Observatory), David La Puma (NJ Audubon's Cape May Bird Observatory), Björn Malmhagen (Falsterbo Bird Observatory) and C.J. Ralph (Point Blue Conservation Science). Please visit the IBOC website at <http://www.regonline.com/IBOC2017> for all the details, or to register. A limited number of scholarships are available to help with travel costs.

THE 21ST CONGRESS OF THE MESOAMERICAN SOCIETY OF BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION (SMBC) and the 6TH INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF PARTNERS IN FLIGHT (PIF) will occur **30 Oct – 03 Nov 2017** at the Hotel Crowne Plaza Corobicí, San José, Costa Rica <http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/cp/1/en/hotel/SJOCP?hotelCode=SJOCP>. The theme is "Conservation of biodiversity in the hands of Mesoamerican women". Proposals for workshops and symposia are due May 19 to ZAIDA PIEDRA (EM: logisticacr2017@gmail.com) for SMBC and to GREG BUTCHER (EM: gbutcher@fs.fed.us) for PIF. Abstracts for oral presentations or posters are due 31 May; early registration ends 31 July. If after these deadlines, please contact to see if exceptions can be made. See SMBC website for more info: <http://www.congresosmbc.org>.

*RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION CONFERENCE on **7-12 Nov 2017**. HawkWatch International will host the annual conference at the Sheraton in Salt Lake City, Utah. Registration is open. Information on the conference can be obtained at: <http://www.raptorresearchfoundation.org/conferences/current-conference/>

*2017 AUSTRALASIAN ORNITHOLOGICAL CONFERENCE will be held at Deakin University, Geelong, Victoria from **8-11 Nov 2017**. The Australasian Ornithological Conference is a biennial event for anyone interested in the study and conservation of Australasian birds, supported by Birdlife Australia and Birds New Zealand. The program will comprise three days of talks and posters, including seven specialized symposia: 1. Avian pathogen coevolution 2. Conservation genetics 3. Evolution of Australian birds 4. Managing threatened species 5. Seabirds 6. Waterbirds and shorebirds 7. Woodland birds. In addition to the presentation program, we will also be operating birding excursions to Port Phillip Heads Marine National Park and Werribee's Western Treatment Plant, a famed hotspot for local bird diversity. For more details about the conference, or to register, visit our website: <http://aoconference.org> We look forward to seeing you there!

*THE 136TH STATED MEETING OF AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGY will be held in Tucson, Arizona, USA, **9 to 14 Apr 2018**.

THE 2018 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY will be jointly held with the Association of Field Ornithologists on **7-9 Jun, 2018** at the Chattanooga Convention Center in Chattanooga, TN. Inexpensive room blocks will be available at the attached Marriot Chattanooga Downtown and the nearby Days Inn Chattanooga-Rivergate. Chattanooga is a family-friendly location with lots of activities in the downtown areas and a plethora of local eateries. June will be an excellent time for local birding and several field trips will be available to participants. If you have questions about the meeting, please contact WOS representative MARK DEUTSCHLANDER (EM: deutschlander@hws.edu) or local host DAVID ABORN (EM: David-Aborn@utc.edu).

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR BEHAVIORAL ECOLOGY, **11-17 Aug 2018**. The biennial ISBE conference will be held in Minneapolis, MN, hosted by the University of Minnesota. More information at <http://www.behavecol.com/meetings-conferences/>

27TH INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS, **19 - 26 Aug 2018**, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The meeting venue is the Vancouver Convention Centre. Nominations for plenary speakers and proposals for symposia must be received on or before **1 May 2016**. For general meeting information and updates, including special events, field trips, local attractions, and links to social media pages, please register on <http://www.IOCongress2018.com>. Mid-Congress Tours on Friday, 24 August 2018 will showcase the best of birding on the spectacular west coast of beautiful British Columbia. Pre- and post-Congress tours will not only include prime Canadian, including the Arctic, destinations but also Ecuadorian Cloud Forest, Amazon and Galapagos expeditions - in celebration of this being the first Congress on the Pacific Coast of the Americas.

*RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION 2018 CONFERENCE on **12-16 Nov 2018** is planned for Skukuza, Kruger National Park, South Africa. Information on the conference can be obtained at: <http://www.raptorresearchfoundation.org/conferences/kruger/>

IN MEMORIAM

HARRY R. CARTER, a member of the AOU since 1983 (Elective Member 2009) and COS since 1986, died April 30, 2017, in Victoria B.C., of metastatic melanoma. He was an internationally respected seabird biologist and conservationist, authoring or co-authoring over 200 scientific papers and reports, working on projects in BC, California, Oregon, Alaska, Baja California (Mexico), Japan, and South Korea. In 2017, he was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Pacific Seabird Group in recognition of his tremendous and life-long contribution to seabird conservation.

JAMES H. ENDERSON, a member of the AOU since 1961 (Elective Member 1974), and RRF since 1997, died January 2017. Jim was an early board member of The Peregrine Fund and devoted his life to the restoration of the peregrine falcon. He helped identify DDT as the cause of the peregrine falcon's sudden and massive decline across the United States. Among his numerous awards and citations, he was the recipient of the Hamerstrom Award for contributions to the ecological understanding and conservation of wild raptors, and the Cade Award for captive propagation and management from the Raptor Research Foundation.

THE FLOCK - SPECIAL SECTION

To correct your address in the membership database please send the new information to the OSNA Membership Office, 5405 Villa View Dr., Farmington, NM 87402 (EM: OSNAmembers@gmail.com, PH: 312-883-4670) or change it yourself online in the OSNA Member Portal (URL: <https://customer265664c9b.portal.membersuite.com/Login.aspx>).

To alert your colleagues of new address information, contact the *Ornithological Newsletter* Editor, CHERYL L. TRINE (EM: ctrine@atandrews.edu)

ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETIES OF NORTH AMERICA

5405 Villa View Drive
Farmington, NM 87402

Address Service Requested

THE MOST RECENT NUMBERS of the Society journals and the month of mailing are: *Auk*, 2017, Vol. 134, #3 (Jul); *Condor*, 2017, Vol. 119, #3 (Aug), *J. Field Ornith.*, 2017, Vol. 88, #3 (Sep), *Raptor Res.*, 2017, Vol. 51, #3 (Sep), *Wilson J. Ornith.*, 2017, Vol. 129, #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 December. Items you wish to have included must reach the Editor, CHERYL L. TRINE, 3889 E. Valley View, Berrien Springs, MI 49103 (PH: 269-471-7886; EM: ctrine@atandrews.edu), **by 15 November 2017**. Please submit announcements by email (in the body of the email message--not an attached file). 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.